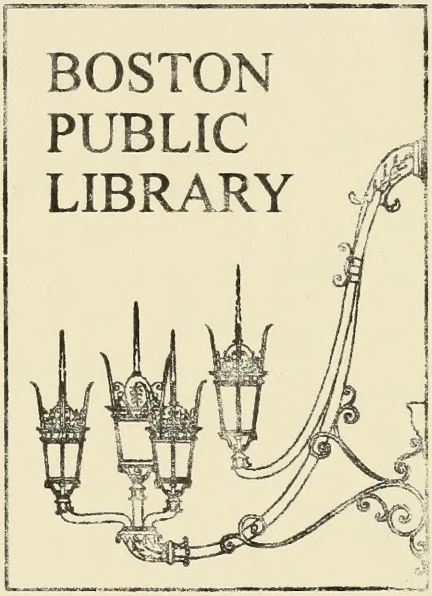
300 Years of Joseph Olin and His Descendants

Volume I

Warren G. Olin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Author: Warren G. Olin, Family Historian
Editor: Ann Joyce Olin Powell
Published By: OLIN Family

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Library of Congress Catalog Number: 96-68406

CS71
.046
1996
V.1

ISBN 0-9651495-0-1

Manufactured in the United States of America on acid-free paper

500
First Edition

Typesetting/Graphic Design/
Camera-Ready Material: Type-O-Graphics
Endwell, NY

Printing
Company: The Maple-Vail Book Manufacturing Group
York, PA

Editor's Note

When children ask, "Where did I come from?" their parents may suck in their breath, assuming the child is seeking information on the origin of his/her life. As we grow older, we become much too sophisticated to ask such a question. But perhaps we're missing something. Life did not just begin with us, or our parents, or our grandparents, or even with their parents. We really should ask, "Where did we come from? How did our world come to be as it is today? What influences have helped to make us what we are and what our children are likely to be?"

The inspiration for Warren Olin to write this book, for me to edit it, and for our siblings to help support it, was, of course, our Dad, George O. Olin. He accumulated genealogical information over the years because he was curious to know his family and who came before. His difficult and somehow heroic life transferred to us a respect and reverence for family, love, loyalty, truth, and honor, all supported by our mother, Leona Ruland Olin. We children grew up with a sense that family was special and that each of us should do our best to make the world a little better than we found it. That is the story of all the Olins — ordinary people just doing their best to make things a little better.

Pleased and excited that this ambitious project was actually coming to fruition, I was concerned about Warren's plan to write a readable book. His extensive research should be invaluable to future genealogists and historians. He systematically uncovered previously undocumented information regarding the "missing link" generation which stymied earlier research in the Joseph branch of the John OLIN Family. Warren also compiled and analyzed all of the traditions, theories and new information on the country of origin of John Olin. And just as carefully, Warren traced as many families as possible through all of their generations to the present. I worried that foregoing footnotes and adding some fiction might compromise the credibility of his Herculean work. At the same time, I understood Warren's intention that this book be read and enjoyed.

Without creating fables, Warren has carefully used historically relevant fiction to help the reader understand the 18th and 19th centuries and how people lived. The effect is to see our ancestors as

the real people they were. Often as I edited, I found myself so caught up in their lives that I had to go back a page or two to do my job. Identifying where fiction has been used should pose little problem for true historians, and sources are listed for serious researchers without disturbing the text. The outcome is a readable book whether you are an Olin, related to one, or not. My woriry relieved, it is a pleasure to be associated with this work. Now the Joseph branch of the John OLIN Family can know from where it came.

"To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root."

—Chinese Proverb

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Introduction

Before any attempt on my part to research and write the history of John(1), Joseph(2) OLIN and his descendants, I resolved to present the history in such a way as to be palatable to our family readers. Too many family history, genealogy, and reference books have a tendency to 'turn off' the reader after a cursory look. Elaborate numerical or alphabetical person identification systems and excessive author's or bibliography notes in a family history book intimidate the occasional reader. I do realize that the accepted professional approach using an identification system and footnote sources are deemed necessary by the dedicated scholar or critic to have faith in the author's work. However, I believe a more relaxed, down-to-earth, approach in documenting family history is needed to keep alive our descendants' interest in their ancestors.

Therefore, I have woven together documented facts and family traditions with local events known to have occurred at the time. In other words, this OLIN Family History is based on facts, family traditions and "what could have happened" in the absence of eye-witness accounts of "What did happen." I believe that as generations go on, more and more facts of "what did happen" will rise to the surface.

I hope that by eliminating boring and interruptive, detailed documented sources, the story will flow to gain the reader's interest. I have referred to specific sources and events in the text and included a general list of public references which, I believe, will stimulate and aid any serious future researcher.

Four OLIN histories written in books 50 to 100 years ago on the John(1), John(2) OLIN and John(1), Henry(2) OLIN branches and are registered in the United States Library of Congress. George S. Nye wrote the first history in 1892, titled *Biographical Sketches and Records of the Ezra Olin Family*. He stayed within the Ezra Olin family, son of John(2) OLIN, but did elaborate on the OLIN origin and the first two generations.

The following year, 1893, Chauncey C. Olin wrote his book *The John Olin Family History with Sketches and Portraits of the John Olin Ancestry*. The title is misleading in that the history is 80% on the

Henry[2] Olin branch. He did include information on the other branches.

Later, in 1921, Oran Raber produced his book, *Biographical Sketches of the Samuel Olin Family*, which added two more generations to the John[2] OLIN book by George Nye.

Still later, in 1956, William G. Closson wrote a short, 60-page update to C. C. Olin's Henry[2] Olin book. Closson brought his own OLIN branch up to date and merged it into his Closson family.

Our original John Olin, according to tradition, arrived in America ca 1678. Records show his marriage in 1708 to Susannah Spencer and that he had four known children: Joseph, John, Henry and Eleanor Olin. John[1] Olin's only daughter, Eleanor, married Benjamin Carpenter. Their family history is written in a book, 1898, *A Genealogical History of the Rehoboth Branch of the Carpenter Family in America* by Amos B. Carpenter.

Nothing, absolutely nothing, has ever been meaningfully documented on the history of the Joseph[2] OLIN Family Branch. An attempt to research this family was made in the 1920 to 1940 years by Clayton P. Olin and my father, George O. Olin, both descendants of Joseph[2] OLIN. Clayton P. Olin died in the late 1940s and my father became blind in the 1950s and died in 1975. Consequently, the Joseph[2] OLIN elusive research laid dormant for 30 more years.

I retired from IBM in 1979 after 38 years and became involved with local volunteer activities. My interest in local history and latent desire to write, prompted me to accept an appointment as Historian for my County (Tioga) in New York. Researching and answering genealogical queries, researching and writing local history stories, coordinating a book and updating county history became a new way of life. I had inherited my father's OLIN family research material and became more than interested in our genealogy and family history.

Genealogy
begins as an interest
becomes a hobby
continues as an avocation
takes over as an obsession
and in its last stage
is an incurable disease!

Needless to say, I was hooked! My goal of documenting the

Joseph(2) OLIN history became an obsession. Public records became a challenge with over 20 variant spellings of Olin, two of which are found actively in use today (OLAN and OLDEN). My wife, Emilia, and I have made countless trips to many states in search of missing links. One example was a trip to the Rundel Library in Rochester, NY, where we "blitzed" their stack of 1800 family history books. Sixty of those books offered OLIN information through marriages and resulting children.

Correspondence with hundreds of OLIN and associated family members has yielded an enormous amount of information on all branches. I have nine file cabinet drawers full, information which I delight in sharing with others. The genealogical hard data and family history highlights became two distance entities. Since I had not become computer oriented, my nephew, Thomas R. Olin, of Waterville, NY has assumed responsibility of maintaining a master computer file to include all hard data: names, births, marriages, and deaths including dates, places and relationships of all OLIN branches. Tom will be making this genealogical hard data available.

Meanwhile, relieved of the genealogical chore, I could concentrate on writing the Joseph(2) OLIN history as a story. I hoped that other family members would share in the writing of this history. Some have provided marvelous inputs, traditional and real, while others declined in good faith. I have tried to acknowledge all significant input within the text or in the source listings. If I have failed to do this at any point, I apologize and thank you for your help.

Although I have accumulated massive files of OLIN material, my research will continue. However, if the historical documentation of my Joseph(2) OLIN branch is to be completed in my lifetime, I must draw a line for cutoff. Even then, both those directly involved with me on this book and I feel that a two-volume book is necessary. We have an unprecedented amount of material to draw from and a lot more will be coming.

Naturally, this book is Volume No. 1 of two volumes. It is confined to John(1), Joseph(2), Joseph(3) OLIN branches from Vermont plus a section of the OLIN origin.

Volume No. II will include the John(1), Joseph(2), Philip and William(3) OLIN branches of Connecticut, plus a section on past and future OLIN Reunions. JoAnne Fair Moriarty, a descendant of Philip OLIN and I plan to co-author Volume No. II. Thomas R. Olin, OLIN

Family Genealogist, intends to write the section on all OLIN Reunions.

Again I wish to thank one and all who contributed in any way to this story. I especially wish to thank my sister, Ann Joyce Olin Powell for her dedicated participation in editing. I also wish to thank those who contributed to the support of the printing costs. A special thank you to Carol Stogran for her patience and skill in providing camera-ready material. Volume No. I is historically accurate, composed of many, many facts with a little fiction. After all, who are we, about to enter the 21st century, to challenge what could have happened with the lives of our ancestors in those earlier centuries? It has not been my intention to deviate from any known facts and, for the most part, have taken advantage of consistent family traditions.

It seemed natural to me to begin this book with a thorough review and my conclusions of the 300-year-old controversy about our OLIN origin. I sincerely hope you enjoy Volume I — *300 Years of Joseph Olin and His Descendants* as much as I have.

PART I

Olin Origin

"To doubt everything or to believe everything
Are two equally convenient solutions;
Both dispense with the necessity of reflection!"
—H. Poincare, French Scientist

Chapter 1

OLIN of The British Isles

The first formal recognized OLIN family reunion was held in 1886 at Gull Lake, Michigan when George S. Nye was elected the Historian and charged with documenting Olin history and genealogical data. His research and compilation were good for the times, but he confined his material strictly to the Ezra Olin line of the John(1), John(2) Olin branch. The name of his published book in 1892 is *Biographical Sketches and Records of the Ezra Olin Family.*

The following year, Chauncy C. Olin of Indianapolis, Indiana, volunteered to collect and write the history of the John(1), Henry(2) Olin branch. His genealogical data was poorly organized and quite often inaccurate. Nevertheless, he took on the task which is an accomplishment shunned by the majority. He included information from some other branches in his book published 1893, *The John Olin Family History 1678-1893.*

Both Nye and Olin acknowledged the family tradition that the original John(1) Olin had arrived in America as John Llewellyn and subsequently changed his name to Olin. The authors limited their research of Llewellyn to abbreviated history of the early Welshmen and the rise and fall of Prince Llewellyn during the 13th century. This account was acceptable to the two authors and their families who believed they must be descendants of royalty.

Author Oran Raber mistrusted the family tradition that the OLIN family were originally Llewellyns and performed his own research. His

results plus an update on the Ezra Olin history occurs in his book published 1921, entitled *Biographical Sketches of the Samuel Olin Family.*

Another OLIN family researcher agreed with Raber, stating, "The name Olin is not of Welsh derivation and cannot be found in either Wales, England or Scotland." His name was C. O. Bailey whose research records seems to have disappeared.

In 1956, William G. Closson, a Civil Engineer, published his findings on the OLIN family in his book, *The William Olin Family of West Greenwich, RI and Laurens, NY and Some of His Descendants.* He declared, "The origin of the Olin family is shrouded in tradition and uncertainty."

The books written by George S. Nye, Chauncy C. Olin, Oran Raber, and William Closson are registered with the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.

Hundreds of families other than Olin have had family traditions passed down from generation to generation. Most of these traditions survive in total accuracy while some have been altered, either unknowingly or purposefully endorsing a more fascinating or favorable tradition. In reviewing the traditions or opinions involving the Olin origin, whether credible or incredible, consistent or inconsistent, I have taken the liberty of quoting portions in the following chapters.

The following excerpts are taken from Nye's book where he makes reference to a country in the British Isles; in his case, Wales:

page 7 - A family book, *The Genealogical Record of James Edmonds and His Wife Cordela Spear* reads that "About the year 1690, John Olin, aged fourteen, was pressed on board a *man-o-war*, on the coast of Wales."

page 8 - From one of the older members of the Gideon Olin family this traditional account was obtained. "The first one of the family in this country was a boy of Welsh birth who filled the responsible position of powder-monkey on board a man-o-war, he deserted at Providence, RI, ran off into the woods and changed his name from Llewellyn to Olin."

page 8 - From a member of Henry Olin's family, a brother to Ezra Olin, the following account was received: "John Olin, the first of the name to arrive in this country, was

a Welsh boy who had been pressed on board a British war vessel. On the arrival of the vessel in Boston harbor, he was permitted to stroll upon the streets, where he observed a man driving a yoke of oxen hitched to a cart. Never having seen such a sight before, he begged permission, which was readily granted, to ride in this odd conveyance. For some unexplained reason his ride into the country was so prolonged that when he did return, his vessel had sailed away without him."

page 8 - "John, West Greenwich, RI, said to have come in 1678, in his youth from Wales. . . ."

page 10 - "John Olin, the first of his name and race in America, settled in the vicinity of East Greenwich, RI, about 1700. He was a native of Wales, and is said to have come to this country when but fourteen years of age."

C. C. Olin, in his book, had the same information as Nye and added four additional comments of his own.

page 5 - "The Puritans of 1620 came to America to enjoy civil and religious liberty, but our ancestor, John Olin, became a citizen of this country by compulsion. He was arrested on the coast of Wales in 1678 and forced aboard a British man-o-war and was landed in Boston harbor, where he deserted at the first opportunity and migrated to Rhode Island."

page 8 - ". . . between the time of the granting of the Charter to Rhode Island by Charles I in 1663, and 1678, the time that our first ancestor, John Olin, emigrated from Wales to Rhode Island a severe and bloody war had broken out between the colonists and the Indians. This war lasted for several years."

page 16 - "Four Olins came over from Wales. One died, the other three raised families. One of them was Henry, father of Justin, who lived in Rhode Island and died there at the age of 104."

page 18 - "John Olin, 1st, born in Wales, 1664, married October 4, 1708 to Susannah Spencer at East Greenwich; died June 10, 1725, at Newport, Rhode Island, aged 61

years."

Oran Raber had the identical contradictory information as Nye and C. C. Olin in his book plus his personal inputs about Wales and Sweden.

page 10 - "In looking into the history of the Welsh people, from whom the Olins have descended, we find . . . ."

page 13 - "As seen in the following pages the above remarks concerning Wales, probably have little significance in our history, but this introduction also serves to show the origin of the Welsh tradition, and although known mistakes are found to occur in the above records, it has been thought best to preserve this source of tradition."

C. O. Bailey referred to Wales, British Isles, in one of his genealogical queries submitted to the *Boston Transcript* during the 1920s. "In all the printed Olin genealogies, he (John Olin) is said to be of Welsh origin and to have died at Newport, June 10, 1725, aged 61 years, but no authority for this date is given."

In another query, Bailey says, "The traditional account is that John Olin was born in Wales, was a cabin boy, deserted from a British man-o-war and married Susannah Spencer, whose family he had known in Wales."

Stephen H. Olin, a prominent New York City attorney and OLIN family researcher during the early 1920s, wrote a long letter to a cousin, John M. Olin, a practicing judge in Madison, Wisconsin, giving his views on the Olin origin. He wrote, "That a boy, during the seventeenth century, was impressed by a *man-o-war* on the coast of Wales raises no presumption that he was of Welsh birth. The law of impressment gave a King's ship the right to recruit its crew from seafaring men between 18 and 55 years of age. It was harshly enforced and a boy younger than 18 might well be taken. By a statute of Elizabeth, concerning vagrancy, justices of the peace could also press and send on shipboard rogues or vagabonds, but naval officers for obvious reasons preferred to use the King's press in harbors, or, better still, to stop merchant ships at sea and take out the sailors whom they wanted.

In the 17th century, Wales was a pastoral and agricultural country. It had little commerce. Fisherman were there, but they had extensive exemption from impressment. Ships in Welch harbors or sailing the

British Channel would with their crews, ordinarily be English, and John Olin may have been taken from a passing vessel which had never touched the Welsh shore and had no Welshmen in the company."

Stephen Olin continues, "The ordinary test of nationality is the name. If a ship brings from the coast of Italy a man called Atkins or Pedersen or Schwartzkoff or Chang, we do not suppose him to be Italian. John Olin is not a Welsh name. Olin is not found in *Bardsley's Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames.*"

In the Suffolk County, Massachusetts, Deed Book, Volume I, page 102, the will of Thomas Williams lists several orders for paying unpaid bills. One was for his master, John Spurr, to pay Mr. Olin "for letting me blood." His will was dated 5d, 9m, 1646. Williams, a bachelor, was bound out to Spurr and operated a ferry on Jeffrey Creek that rose and fell with the tide between Boston and Salem. Although there is no apparent relationship between this Mr. Olin and our John Olin, I felt compelled to show this documented fact. The surname Olin actually appeared in America in 1646, 26 years after the Mayflower and 32 years earlier than our John(1) Olin's arrival in 1678, who according to our family traditions, was the first with the name Olin in America.

My search into the earliest families from the British Isles to the American Colonies led me to a book titled *Original Lists of Persons of Quality, 1600-1700* by John C. Hotten, 1986. One hundred and six passengers left Port Weymouth, England, 20th March, 1635, bound for New England. Among the passengers were George Allin, age 24, his wife Katherine Allyn, age 30, sons George and William, ages 16 and 6, and his servant, Edward Poole, age 26. In the book's index for Allin, the same line shows Allen and Allyn. In my Olin searches, I have seen some entries for Olin often spelled as Alen, Allen, Allin, Allyn, etc. Could the above Allin family actually be an OLIN family?

As a point of interest, the above book's title suggests persons of quality. The inside cover page continues the title to include emigrants, religious exiles, political rebels, serving men sold for a term of years, apprentices, children stolen, maidens pressed, and others who went from Great Britain to the American Plantations.

Another traditional description of the Olins coming from the British Isles through an unknown source. "Four Olins came over from Wales. One died at sea and the others came here and raised families. Some say the names were John, Henry and the third, unknown. Still another

story: Henry came over, one died at sea, and three raised families and Henry lived in Rhode Island and died at age 104 years old."

Grace Olin Stone of the Henry(2) branch offered this undated unique tradition handed down in her family. "The custom in early England was for the oldest son to inherit the family estate, but it was also his responsibility to provide for the rest of the family. Grant Olin said that at some point one of the oldest sons in Wales found his relatives a burden and came upon the plan to send them to America. Thus, he chartered a ship to bring them and hired some soldiers to guard them against danger.

There were not enough supplies for the winter, so the Olins and the soldiers were put ashore on an island just off the State of New York. The ship headed back to England to get more supplies. The ship never returned with supplies and they never heard from the England Olins again. Late in the fall, the soldiers decided to keep the supplies and let the Olins starve. In Grant's delightful way of understatement, he said, 'the Olins disagreed and survived the winter'.

The next spring the Olins made their way to the mainland. Some of them found their way to the Ozarks, some stayed in New York and then went West. Our particular branch came from Rhode Island."

In summing up this chapter, most traditions or beliefs point to the original family name to be Olin, yet at the same time saying that there were no OLIN families in existence at the time in Great Britain or Wales.

Chapter 2

Llewellyn of Wales

The first record, other than vital records, of the John Olin family was published, 1872, by James Edmonds in his book, *The Genealogical Records of James Edmonds and His Wife Cordela Spear.* James Edmonds was born 1805, in Claredon, Vermont and died 1861, in Louisville, Jefferson County, New York. He was Corresponding Secretary for the American Bible Revision Association. At least four marriages occurred during the first half of the 19th century between the Edmonds and OLIN families. Edmonds said, "My Olin information is from an old manuscript, about 1850, which fell into my possession by accident. It has no date or signature." The year 1850 is 40 years earlier than either Nye or C. C. Olin's books.

Edmonds wrote, "About the year 1690, John Olin, aged fourteen, was pressed on board a *man-o-war* on the coast of Wales. He deserted at Boston, married at Greenwich, Rode Island, and had one daughter and three sons: John, Henry and Joseph."

The source for his statement about our OLIN family tradition is two generations earlier than Nye and C. C. Olin's publications and lists all of John(1) Olin's four known children although not in birth order. Nye and C. C. Olin may have been confused by the mix of input versions from family members. Nye included a fold out chart in his book that cautiously mentioned a Joseph(2) and a Justin(2) but no mention of a Eleanor(2). He only truly recognized John(2) and Henry(2) as children of John(1) Olin. Edmonds did not mention any name change from Llewellyn to OLIN. However, his input is consistent as to John's age, impressment, and desertion at Boston.

The short history by Nye of the Romans taking over Great Britain and their attempt to encourage and enforce the Catholic religion in the years BC55 to AD420 is historically accurate. His abbreviated history of the year AD1282 when the reigning Welsh Prince Llewellyn was beheaded by the English and followed a year later by David, the Prince's brother, also agrees with historical facts. Prince Llewellyn's wife, Eleanora, died shortly before the fatal end of the Welsh struggle

for independence. Eleanor was the given name for John(1) Olin's only daughter, born in 1721.

Upon the death of Prince Llewellyn in the 13th century, the English persecuted the Llewellyn family. It was only natural for immediate descendants to go into hiding, to be taken in by relatives, or to be kept in seclusion for survival. Our John Llewellyn/Olin born in 1664, was according to this tradition, a direct descendant of the beheaded Prince. The tradition continues that John at the age of 14 decided to come out of seclusion and let the British know who he was. He was assisted by family friends to board a merchant ship bound for America, unbeknown to the English. When he landed in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, 1678, he changed his name from Llewellyn to Olin.

In trying to rationalize this tradition, one may agree with John's age, his birth in Wales, his year of landing, and his name change. The questionable issue is the seemingly ridiculous hiding of this Llewellyn clan over 400 years until our John decided, enough was enough! There had to be other situations confronting the English that would overshadow and receive higher priorities during all those years. Why would John change his name from Llewellyn to Olin? He displayed evidence of a prideful heritage and would have proudly retained his family name when he reached a safe refuge in America.

Perhaps this tradition was an attempt to enhance the earlier unsavory association with a press gang, powder monkey, *man-o-war* and desertion by promoting the direct lineage to the Prince of Wales and by giving John a clean, respectable entry into America.

Nye did not delve into or write about the religious faith of John Llewellyn/Olin or John's family religion in America. I became interested in the religious angle when I read Butterfield's book *Some Facts About the Early History of Whitingham, Vermont*, published in 1916. Joseph(4) Olin/Olden had married Leah Cudworth, both members of the Baptist church in their home town of Guilford, Windham County, Vermont. After this family moved to Whitingham, also in Windham County in 1805, Butterfield tells how the Olden/Olins participated in organizing a new Baptist group and subsequent building of a new church. The Olden/Olins were officially transferred from the Baptist church in Guilford to the Baptist church in Whitingham.

Back in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, the home of John and Susannah (SPENCER) Olin a book *The History of East Greenwich,*

1677-1877 written by D. H. Greene, M. D. in 1877 states that, "There existed a body of the Six Principle Baptists in the Town of East Greenwich as early as the year 1700. . . ."

The first settlers introduced by Roger Williams came of English, Irish, and Welsh stock and were chiefly of the Baptist faith, although there were Quakers and Catholics. Based on the fact that John's family lived in a predominately Baptist area and that at least one of his children's family carried on with the Baptist religion, I felt it necessary to research Wales for their Baptist history and see if there would be a connection to the Llewellyn family.

History of the Welsh Baptists was written in 1835 by J. Davis in which he describes the early advent of the Baptist faith on the European continent, its introduction to the Welsh about AD600, and the struggle to keep it through the seventeenth century. Dozens of wars raged within the British Isles between catholics and protestants, principally Baptist. Thousands of Baptist followers were persecuted by the papist English. Both the Llewellyn and the SPENCER families were victims of severe punishment, including death.

On page 119, "In 1660, in the county of Monmouth (Wales) the Blaenau Church was a branch of Llanwenarth for many years. This church suffered much by bitter persecutions; at the time, they were obliged to meet to worship God in the fields, the woods, and the rocks of the mountains, like many of their brethren. Sometimes, however, they ventured to meet in some private houses. They often met at the house of Nest Llewellyn. Though she was frequently dragged before the higher powers, to answer for her crimes; yet she was undaunted."

On page 106 "Dr. Thomas Llewellyn, of London, was baptized and received a member of the Brynsion church, a branch of the Welsh-tract. He was a real friend to the Welsh people in many respects. In his last years, he spent the greater part of his time in Wales."

On page 108, "John Llewellyn was named one of the deacons of the Baptist Church in Rhydwilim in 1667 during the warmest and most severe period of the bloody persecutions under the monster, King Charles II."

On page 120, "Moses Llewellyn was baptized 1699, began to preach as assistant minister in 1701 and died 1745."

Dozens of Llewellyns were named throughout this book confirming the fact that the Llewellyns of Wales and England were Baptist. A

direct connection to our John[1] Olin/Llewellyn to the Baptist faith in the British Isles has not been found.

The Baptists were not the only Christian faith destined for persecution. The newly created Quaker religion was beginning to flourish in the 17th century. Scores of Llewellyn families joined the Quakers, simply because the growth of the Quaker followers was not yet a threat to the British government; therefore, persecutions were minimal.

The book, *Passengers and Ships Prior to 1684 Penn's Colony*, Volume I by Walter L. Sheppard, Jr., 1985, has information on several Quaker families that had purchased land in America through William Penn while he was in Wales. Penn was granted thousands of acres in lower Pennsylvania. He traveled throughout England and Wales encouraging his fellow Quakers to relocate to America where they would be free to practice their Quaker faith.

Welsh families departed from Cardiff, Wales and Bristol, England, ports on opposite sides of the Bristol Channel. They took their families, livestock, furniture, hardware, seeds, and food, planning for their future. Some took nothing but themselves or purchased goods for resale in America. Twenty-three ships were recorded leaving the British Isles bound for Philadelphia in 1682. Not all passengers survived the trip and were buried at sea when they died from smallpox.

Two Quaker brothers, John and Morris Llewellyn, each purchased 250 acres from William Penn, left Wales and arrived in America 1682/3, and settled in Chester County, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The brothers were born in Castle Birth, Pembroke County, in southern Wales. Morris married Ann Young, 1673 and had three children: David, Mary, and Morris all born in Wales and a son, Griffith, born in America. Morris had spent some jail time in Wales because of his involvement with the Quaker church.

Apparently John came to American without a family, if he had one. He died shortly after his arrival and willed his acres to his brother, Morris.

In my searches for the family of our John[1] Olin/Llewellyn in Wales, the John LLEWELLYN mentioned above has possibilities of being the father of our John. I tend to rationalize thusly: If Morris was married in 1673 at age 21, his birth would be about 1652. Because his brother, John, died shortly after their arrival in America. I tend to believe John

to be the older brother, possibly born 1645-50. Morris brought his family to America and his brother John arrived alone. Suppose John was married at age 21 and had a family back in the British Isles. His oldest son would have been born about 1669, a year reasonably close to our John Llewellyn/Olin born in 1664. Further conjecture on my part would place our John as a possible son of John Llewellyn of Castle Birth, Pembroke, Wales.

Roots Research Bureau, Ltd., New York City published a booklet, Manuscript No. 16710, in 1984 titled, *The Name and Family of Llewellyn.* The history of this family starts with Jestyn, born about AD1200 and carries through the seventeenth century to a John Llewellyn, born ca 1660-1670 who had a sister named Eleanor. Could this John Llewellyn, whose father, John and grandfather Thomas, lived in Glamorganshire, Wales with one of two sisters named Eleanor, be the same John Llewellyn/Olin, born in 1664, arriving in America in 1678, marrying Susannah Spencer in 1708, naming their only known daughter Eleanor?

George Nye had stated in his book that our John Olin was born in Wales and married Susannah Spencer, whose family he had known in Wales. C. O. Bailey took exception to the Spencer family reference by voicing his opinion in query No. 638 of the *Boston Transcript* where he said, "It is not supported by any recorded facts, and, so far as the Spencer family is concerned, is erroneous, as that family came from Bedfordshire, England, not from Wales." Bailey was correct in his placement of our Spencer family in England, but he could be wrong in ruling out the Llewellyn/Olin family and the Spencer family's neighborly association

The Gardiner's Atlas of English History by S. R. Gardiner, 1895, page 30 shows a map of the British Isles, dated December 9, 1643, showing the line separating the Welsh and English borders. At that time, 20 years before the birth of our John Llewellyn/Olin, the Welshmen occupied more territory than the English. The borderline was within ten miles of Bedordshire, making it possible for Llewellyn/Olin and Spencer families to have known each other (if they did.) This map shows that Wales controlled more of the coastlines of the British Isles (excepting Ireland) than the English, which provides strong support to repeated references that our John Olin was impressed off the coast of Wales. It is truly difficult to determine who were

Welsh or who were English in a land that changed ownership several times over the centuries.

The International Genealogical Index (IGI) search for a clue of our Llewellyns expanded to include all of England and Wales. The records were limited to births, christenings, marriages, wills giving a parish and county source. A large percentage of entries were incomplete. Over 1,000 Llewellyn names for Wales and over 500 names for England were listed just for the two centuries of 1500 and 1600. The majority of Llewellyn lived on each side of the present day border between Wales and England, an area known as "The Marches." There were more than 60 spelling variations of the Llewellyn surname.

If we Olins are actually descendants of Llewellyns, the search must continue to find our ancestor still hidden in the Welsh Llewellyn maze.

MAP - 1

Longmans, Green & Co., London & New York —F. S. Weller, F. R. G. S.

Chapter 3

OLIN of France

Nowhere in George Nye's book, published 1892, did he make any reference to France as the origin of Olin. He strongly believed that the Olins originated in Wales.

The only reference that C. C. Olin made about France was on page 14 where he related to Sarah Dwinell's ancestors fleeing from France during the persecution of the Huguenots. Sarah was the wife of Justin[3] Olin, Henry[2] branch.

Oran Raber's limited copies were the first to mention France in the same context as Olin. On page 15, he states, ". . . In Normandy, France, is a town called OLINVILLE. This section of France was settled by people from Scandinavia." On the next page, Raber quotes C. O. Bailey, "John Olin is stated to have been a native of Wales. In a published genealogy of another branch of the family he is stated to have been of French descent. I can find no authority for either statement except family tradition."

This author failed to find the specific published genealogy that Bailey was referring to. Olins have married into hundreds of other families who may have documented the Olin marriages, children, and possibly our family traditions. However, Bailey was a thorough researcher and delighted in stirring up controversial issues. It is believed that Bailey's Olin research collection is still in-tact although presumed unavailable. It may contain key information for our family if it ever surfaces. Bailey was inclined to believe in the Swedish Olin origin.

The following two paragraphs express the views of William Closson on the French issue.

"The name Olin occurs frequently in France. In Normandy, France, there is a village called OLINVILLE, near Rouen. This section was settled by people from the Scandinavian countries. Shortly before John Olin arrived in American, there was a large movement of refugees who fled from religious persecution in France and located at various points in Great Britain.

There are still many OLIN families in France. My aunt, Mrs. Luella May (Olin) Duysters, who traveled and lived many years in Belgium and France has compared notes with several of them and is convinced that they are related to the OLIN families of America. These OLIN families in France believe that the name had its origin in France and that the OLIN families in other countries are descendants of French Olins who left France at any early date."

The most powerful and convincing information that the Olin name originated in France is found in a 17-page letter/dissertation written by Stephen H. Olin, a prominent New York City attorney, in 1920 to the Honorable John M. Olin, practicing judge in Madison, Wisconsin. This remarkable and revealing letter was made available to be by Susan J. Dick of California. John M. Olin and Stephen H. Olin were cousins descending from the John(1), Henry(2) branch of the OLIN family.

Stephen H. Olin wrote, ". . . the belief that John Olin, your ancestor and mine, was a Welshman seems to me to be without substantial foundation. I think that he was a Frenchman, and as you express an interest in the reasons for my opinion, I will give them.

Some years ago I guessed that Olin was of French derivation and my opinion was afterwards supported by that learned woman of letters who writes in Paris under the nom de plume "Femina."

"Olin," she said, "is French-Gothic French."

I also guessed that John Olin was a Huguenot, driven from home by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685; but this guess was wrong. Olin is not one of the family names in the Huguenot records kept in Paris.

It is worth noticing that John, Henry, Justin, and Joseph are names which a Frenchman might give to his sons. All of them are French names and two centuries ago were on the calendar of saints from which godfathers might lawfully select.

I do not believe that there are any Olins nowadays in France. Indeed I have never noticed the name anywhere in Europe except in Brussels.

In 1877 I started to spend my holiday in Norway but I was tempted to go to the Danube for a glimpse of the Russian-Turkish war. The trip proved expensive, my letter of credit was exhausted. I cabled to have a remittance meet me at Brussels and I arrived there penniless. I found no letter at the poste restante and my situation seemed serious until on

the third day my letter was handed to me. It had been opened and sealed again with the seal of 'Olin & CIE.' In 1883 I was again in Brussels and a friend introduced me to Monsieur Xavier Olin, Senator and Minister of Public Works and partner in Olin & Co. He remembered opening my letter. He told me that his family had been long in Belgium and that he knew of no other Olins in Europe.

But if there are no Olins now in France, that was not the case in the 16th and 17th centuries.

On February 25th, 1576, Henry of Navarre, not yet Henry IV of France, wrote to his Secretary, Forget, speaking of the members of his council and expressing his special reliance upon the Sieur d'OLINVILLE.

In the winter of 1914 I received an impressive communication from the International College of Heraldry --- offering me for a moderate fee a copy of the coat of arms of the OLIN family as registered by Charles d'Hozier in the Armorial General of France in 1699 . . . ."

Stephen H. Olin was wary of this offer and made a special trip to France to check authenticity of the "Olin" coat of arms, the OLIN family connection, and origin.

He continues his letter to John M. Olin,. "From this office I obtained the papers of which I annex a somewhat careless translation. The first paper contains pedigrees of different branches of the OLIN family and descriptions of some 34 legal documents in which the name Olin appears. These are dated from 1618 to 1738 . . . there was a blazon of the arms of Jeanne Olin, widow of Jean Chef de vile, Bourgeoeis of Paris, and also of the quite different escutcheon of Anne Olin, widow of L. Hector de Marles Sr. de Beaubourg."

While in Paris Stephen H. checked out the existence of OLINVILLE near Rouen, could not find it, and suggested that perhaps the name had changed over the years. He did, however, write an interesting section on an OLINVILLE that existed in New York.

"Once there was an OLINVILLE in the City of New York. It was a little settlement around a Methodist church and was named after my father. The borough of the Bronx has spread over it and nothing of it remains on the map but the name 'OLINVILLE Avenue' though a telephone central is called OLINVILLE. Perhaps the OLINVILLE which Henry IV knew, has during the centuries, faded away in like fashion."

Stephen H. restarts his comments on our John[1] Olin. "If we assume, with Monsieur de Montoison, (an assumption which dates render difficult) that Jean, the son of Charles Nicolas Olin, was the emigrant to America, he would have found it easy, being with his father in the low countries, to board an English ship and thus get to the Welsh coast. The English law allowed impressment of foreigners found on British vessels.

At that time, a Catholic Frenchman could look for no welcome in New England. The widest tolerance which anywhere prevailed made exceptions of Roman Catholics. Frenchmen were the enemies against whom the Colonies were fighting in expeditions led by Sir William Phipps to Port Royal and Quebec.

If John Olin was a Frenchman, that fact explains our otherwise incomprehensible ignorance about his boyhood. A runaway Welsh boy, and still more a Welsh boy impressed by a king's ship would have no reason to conceal his origin from himself or from his family in Wales; his children would have come to know his story; but for any enemy subject who was what people insultingly called a papist, there was no safety except in silence, and the boy coming out of the woods to East Greenwich all unknown, was wise to carry his account of his life no further back than the deck of the man-of-war off the Welsh coast.

You may say that much of this is based upon speculation and mere guesswork. I agree that it will never be possible to trace by convincing evidence all the ties with his birthplace which John Olin so resolutely severed for 220 years. We shall never know from what branch of the French family the American Olins are descended. None of us may bear the arms registered for the widow Jeanne Olin."

In his final paragraphs to John M. Olin, Stephen H. Olin gives his own personal evaluation to our Olin origin. "It rests upon the fact that there came to Rhode Island during or before 1700 a boy named John Olin and the further fact that at least for a century there had been in France a family of Olins and that so far as appears there were no other Olins anywhere else in the world. The great discoveries of our time--- the laws of continuity and evolution apply to names. There might easily be special creations of names for everyone might create his own. But in fact, the creation of a name is rare. Names endure unchanged or they develop by small additions or translations or changes in sound or spelling. That this young stranger in Greenwich called himself John

Olin was evidence that somewhere could be found a family of Olins to which he belonged. There was a family of Olins in France and we have no trace of any other. We must conclude that John was one of the French Olins."

Stephen H. referred to Jean (French for John) Olin, the son of Charles Nicolas Olin as being an emigrant to America. Charles Nicolas Olin, Seigneur of Torcy, and his brother, Jacques, regular Canon of the Abbey of Saint Denis responded to a family crisis involving their young cousin, Marie Olin, who was seduced by Sieur Henry Baudin.

According to a very curious document preserved in the French National Library, this young girl was driven from home by her parents and she in vain implored pardon from her mother. Her brothers and cousins came to her assistance and required Baudin to marry the girl or to answer to a duel with swords. Baudin fell and died as a result of the duel and charges were brought against members of the OLIN family. One of her brothers and Charles fled from France; Charles going to the low countries where he entered the Spanish service. He made his home on the Peninsula and later became Governor of Sarragossa. He married Marie Marchand and had two sons: Pol and Jean. Jean Olin appears to have gone to America.

The only date that I have been able to work with was Jean Olin's great-grandfather, Pierre Olin, who died about 1650 at age 70. This would put Jean Olin's birth between 1650 and 1700, making him a good candidate for our John(1) Olin. There does not appear to be any records to verify Jean's birth and departure for American and arrival in America.

APPENDIX I

Translation

Documents concerning the

OLIN FAMILY

Deposited in the Cabinet of Titles
(Section of Manuscripts)
National Library
Fond Francais No. 28629
File 48684

Item No. 2. Deed of purchase of a domain by the Sieur Antoine Olin, apothecary at Paris, from the widow Favier, July 5, 1655.

Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 different receipts given by Antoine Olin, Counsellor and elected in the election of Paris in date of the years 1618, 1619, 1622, 1624, 1626, 1627 and 1628.

No. 10. Deed dated in 1630 in which Phillippee Olin is spoken of as dead in an acquittance given by his widow Madame Marie Foule or Foulle.

No. 11. Receipt of Pierre Ollin, Treasurer of the life guards under the commission (charge) of Monsieur de Villequier, dated in the month of March, 1638.

Item No. 12. Discharge of 3 June, 1640, given by Louis Olin, Advocate of the Parliament of Paris, domiciled at Meaux in Brie.

Item No. 13. Receipt given to Pierre Ollin, treasurer of the body guards.

Item No. 14. Louis Olin, Clerk of Audience in the Chancery of the President of Meaux admits having received 56 livres 5 sols. September 9, 1644.

Item No. 15. Deed passed before Antoine Olin, Esquire, Pierre Olin, also Esquire, Lord of Boursampre, Ensign of the Mestre de Camp of the Regiment of Normandy, as heirs of Antoine Olin,

in his lifetime Counsellor of the King, elected in the Election of Paris.

Items No. 16 and **17**. Citations of Nicolas Olin, Counsellor Secretary of the King. House and Crown of France and paymaster, (tresorier) of the Life guards of his Majesty, December 9th, 1655.

Item No. 18. Miss (Demoiselle) Elizabeth Olin, widow of Etienne Philippe gives a receipt in 1637.

Items 19 and **20**. Marguerite Flogny, wife and attorney in fact of Antoine Olin, Esquire, Lord of Troisville, Counsellor of the King and Commissary and Secretary of wars (des guerres) who gives a receipt of arrears of income (rentea sur les aydes,) 31 May, 1662, and 31 May 1663.

Item No. 21. Nicolas Olin, Counsellor of the King, Commissioner, and Madame Anne Olin, widow of the late Louis Hector de Marles, Counsellor of the King, Esquire, Lord of Beaubourg, give a receipt 22 December 1668.

Items No. 22 and **23**. Receipts delivered by Dame Olin, widow of Hector de Marles, 12 December 1669 and 8 March 1678.

Items Nos. 24, 25 and **26**. Receipts delivered by Nicolas Olin, Counsellor of the King, ordinary Commissary of War (des guerres) delivered 8 March 1670. 15 February 1671 and 2 February 1672.

Item No. 27. Acquittance of rentes of the Hotel de Ville given by Marguerite de Flogny, widow of Antoine Olin, Lord of Troisville, Counsellor of the King Ordinary Commissary of War (des guerres) 9 April 1681.

Item No. 28. Deed enumerating the lands and heriditaments dependent upon the less and the great canonry of France and belonging to Nicolas Olin 13 November 1683.

Items 30, 31, 32 and **33**. Acquittances of income (rentes) of the Hotel de Ville delivered by dame Marguerite de Flogny, widow of Antoine Olin the 25 May 1683, the 15 December 1694, 10 December 1695 and 7 June 1699.

Item No. 34. Notice of death (lettre de deces) of the Venerable discrete and scientific person Phillipe Claude Olin, Cure of the Parish of the Holy Innocents of Paris, died the 10 April 1738.

Manuscript No. 30045 --- File 12972

Item No. 2. Genealogical Table

Jean Olin of Boissy,
husband of Michelle d'Hiducz.

Elizabeth married (31 October 1647) to Pierre Grimperel, living at Aubervillers. — Jacques Olin

Item No. 3. Agreement of Promise of Marriage between Marie Olin, daughter of Antoine Olin and of Catherine de Montsabel, with Henry Baudin.

Item No. 4. Genealogical Table

Guilliaume Olin

Guillaume Olin living at Boissy, married to Marie Poussenier

Jacques Olin de Gonesse		Antoine Married to Elizth Beroul			Pierre Olin Paymaster of the Life Guards, husband of Catherine Colbert, daughter of Gerard Colbert, Merchant at Paris
Antoine Sr.of Troisville, Commissary of War 1669	Marc Antoine Lord of Gentilly	Pierre Lord of Bourg	Elizth M.Pierre Philippe Lord of Vencelles	Jeanne wife of Jean Chef de ville	

Jean	Henry	Pierre Lord of Torcy	Nicolas Pay-master of the Life Guards husband of Catherine Boursier	Antoine	Marthe C.	Anne Married to Hector de Marle de Vessigny, Lord of Beaubourg who had a son, Jean born in 1701

Jacques	Charles Lord of Torcy, Gov.of Saragossa married to Marie Marchand	Marie Nicole Michele married in 1702

Jean Emigrated	Paul Officer of Walloon Guards in Spain

Item No. 5. Genealogical Table.

Antoine Olin

Apothecary, Temple Street, husband of Marie Truchet

Pierre Olin, Paymaster of the King's Guards,
died 26 January 1650—Married to Catherine Colbert

Antoine, 1633 Francois died 1639, Catherine Joseph 1630-1633, Pierre 1629, Marie 1629, Therese 1629 Nicolas 1627, Genevieve 1624, Antoine 1623, Marguerite 1621, Jean ?, Pierre 1618, Pierre 1617 died young, Pierre 1615 died young (Mort enbas age)

Item No. 6. Genealogical Table.

Antonine Olin
Married to Elizth Beroul

Anne	Pierre	Jean	Antoine	Anne	Elizabeth
1627	1626	1627	1623	1621	1619

NOTE: These eight pages of documents concerning the OLIN Family in France were originally written in French. Stephen H. Olin had them translated into English and was satisfied with the results, pages 1 and 2 were titled cover page of his total 17 page letter to his cousin, John M. Olin.

Page 3 through 10 contained his thoughts about our Olin ancestry originating in England, Wales, Sweden, and France. I have kept his comments as they were in the text of this story.

Pages 11 through 17 are true copies of Stephen H. Olin's originals except for page 14 which had very little information and I took the liberty to shorten the page.

Pages 16a and 17 refer to a blazon of arms awarded to Jeanne Olin and a different escutcheon for Anne Olin. If future researchers are successful in uniting our John(1) Olin to either one of the two French families, we as descendants may have the legal and honorable right to "claim and display".

APPENDIX II

Origins

The Olin family takes its name from the estate and manor of Olinville, hamlet of the parish of Bruyere le Chastel, in the Canton of Arpajon.

From the year 1200 an Olin is found lord of Olinvilla.

In 1214 Henry de Olinville, liege man of the King Phillippe Auguste, vassal of Mont l'Hery, made declaration that Arnould de Gascogne held under him at Lardy.

The estate of Olinville passed on the distaff side to Benoist Milon, President of the Chamber of Accounts, who sold it to King Henry III.

The chateau was square and surrounded by moats full of water with a round tower at each angle.

A younger son of this ancient house, William Olin, married a daughter of Francois de Monchy, Lord of Montcavrel and of Jeanne de Vaux, who was lady of honor of Queen Catherine de Medici.

He was father of two children who formed each a branch.

Elder Branch

William resided at Boissy Saint Leger of which he was lord jointly with his brother Jean. Of his marriage with Marie Poussenier, he left.

Antoine Olin, who came to Paris, in the street of the Temple were he set up a apothecary after he had married Marie Eruyet, daughter of an apothecary of that name.

He was father of:

Antoine Olin, elected Alderman (Echevin) of Paris, who married Elizabeth Suroul, who, becoming a widow, married a second time, Philippe Nicolas Augrenier, apothecary in Paris. From the marriage of Antoine Olin were born

1st. Antoine Olin, Lord of Troisville, Army Commissary (Commissaire des guerres) who married Angele d'Aloigny.

2nd. Pierre Olin, Lord of Bourg Champret, born in 1626.

3rd. Jeanne, who married Jean de Chefdeville, Lord of Chavenay. She was his widow in 1696, the time when she caused her Arms to be recorded in the Armorial General of France.

4th. Antoine Marie, who follows.

Antoine Marie Olin, Seigneur of Gentilly, married Catherine de Montsabel, who gave him a daughter, Marie Olin, who was seduced by Sieur Henry Baudin.

According to a very curious document preserved in the National Library, this young girl was driven from home by her parents and she in vain implored pardon from her mother.

Her brothers and her cousins then came to her assistance and required Henry Baudin to marry their sister or to answer sword in hand to the challenge which they issued.

Henry Baudin fell in the duel and to escape from the charge of murder brought against the members of the Olin family, they fled from France as we will hereafter explain.

Younger Branch

Jean Olin, Lord of Boissy Saint Leger, jointly with his brother Guillaure married a Miss Michelle d'Hiducz. From which marriage came:

1st. Jacques Olin, who live as a citizen (en bourgeois) at Gonesse.

2nd. Pierre, who follows.

3rd. Toussaint Olin, who came to Paris where he became a dealer in hosiery (Maitre bonnetier).

Pierre Olin was paymaster (tresorier payeur des guerres) and Lifeguardsman (Garde du Corps). He married Genevieve Catherine Colbert, daughter of General Colbert, goldsmith (maitre orfevre) in Paris, and of Marie Paingre.

He died about 1650, aged 70, leaving:

1st. Henry Simon Olin, who, to escape the prosecutions caused by the plan against Baudin, fled to Italy and died among the priests of the Oratory.

2nd. Nicolas, who follows.

3rd. Marie, died young.

Nicolas Olin, paymaster of the Life Guard, married Catherine Bouvier daughter of Claude Bouvier, captain of cavalry, and of Jeanne

Dourdasne, by when he had:

1st. Jacques Olin, regular Canon of the Abbey of Saint Denis.

2nd. Charles Nicolas Olin, who follows:

Charles Nicolas Olin, Seigneur of Torcy, who was compelled to fly at the same time as his cousin after the murder of Baudin. He went to the Low Countries where he entered the Spanish service.

Afterwards he lived in the Peninsula and later became Governor of Saragossa. Of his marriage with Marie Marchand, he had

1st. Pol Olin, who became officer of the Walloon Guards in Spain.

2nd. Jean Olin, whose posterity seems to have gone to America.

Arms

The arms of the Olin family are blazoned as follows:

Blue, a pelican with her brood gold, accompanied in the upper part of the shield right by a star and left a crescent of the same.

Devise "Olin sic est"

(Extract from the Armorial General of France, Register of Paris No. 1299 fo. 1892).

(Stamp).

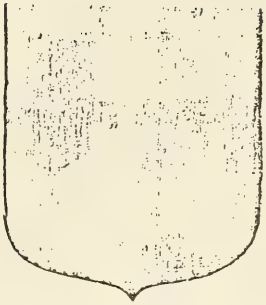
The present notice has been drawn up by us Lambert de Montoison, Continuer of d'Hozier Judge of Arms of the Nobility of France from authentic and trustworthy title deeds, proofs and documents extracted from the collections of the National Library and the Cabinet of Deeds.

At Paris, the 6th July 1914.

(Signed) LAMBERT de MONTOISON.

(Seal)

N° 1299



PAR ORDONNANCE RENDUE le 20e du mois de Mai de l'an 1697. par Mrs les Commissaires Généraux du Conseil députés sur le fait des Armoiries.

Celles de Jeanne Olin

vve de Jean Chefdeville, Bourgeois de Paris

Telles qu'elles sont ici peintes & figurées, après avoir été reçuës, ont été enrégitrées à l'Armorial Général, dans le Régitre cotté Paris I *en conséquence du payement des droits réglés par les Tarif & Arrest du Conseil, du 20e de Novembre de l'an 1696. en foi dequoi, le présent Brévet a été délivré par Nous* CHARLES D'HOZIER, *Conseiller du ROI, & Garde de l'Armorial Général de France, &c. A Paris le* 25 *du mois de* Septbre *de l'an 1700.* Dhozier

POUR EXTRAIT CONFORME :

Lambert de Montorson
Herault Juge d'armes
160

In 1994, Gary Olin of New Hampshire, a descendant of John(1), John(2) Olin branch tells of another family tradition. Gary claims, "The original John Olin's father was a French Military man who had left France for an island off the coast of Wales. My family line was all farmers, down to my father. They had very little education; few could read or write, yet this tradition was passed down. My father remembers his grandfather showing them on a map where the island supposedly was."

Gary continues with a hopeful association with Stephen H. Olin's discovery of the French Jean Olin, second son of Charles Nicholas Olin, Seigneier of Torcy and his family's tradition of the French Military man living on the Welsh island to be the same Olin person.

Another interesting tradition came to Gary's attention from a cousin whose grandmother held papers dated in late 1700s. It seems that an ancestor had arrived in America from Portugal. The family name was so long and complex the immigrant changed it back to Olin. Was this man the first son, Pol, a brother of Jean, of Charles Nicholas Olin of France? Pol, according to the French records, had left France to become an officer in the Walloon Guards in Spain.

Gary Olin's final comments, "I am excited to learn that there was a John(Jean) Olin, born about the right time, who is known to have emigrated to the new world. It is very true that a French Catholic would not have been too 'comfortable' in New England at that time, but in East Greenwich there was a very large community of Huguenots (French) around whom he no doubt could be more 'comfortable'."

Perhaps we should review a few events of French history leading into the 17th century that may or may not have affected our OLIN family.

The northwest portion of France, known as Brittany or Normandy, is a large peninsula shaped piece of land that separates the Bay of Biscay from the English Channel to the north. The people there were called Bretons and the language was somewhat like Welsh descendants of the ancient Druids. England and France traded ownership by wars and marriages several times after the fall of the Roman Empire. Some Romans had stayed behind and raised families as well as the British with armies comprised of English, Welsh, Scots, and possibly Irish. Scandinavian Norsemen had occupied the same area at times before and after the Romans. A few of all these people stayed in France, marrying,

raising families, and adjusting their living to as well as modifying the French style.

The Roman Catholic religion was forced upon all the French people until 1598 when the Edict of Nates became law. The Edict allowed complete freedom of worship for the Protestants or Huguenots in about 75 towns of northern France. The Huguenots formed a sort of Protestant Republic within the French Catholic Kingdom. Their rights and enjoyment of freedom with their beliefs increased the Huguenot's influence, causing a threat to the predominate Catholic Kingdom.

The Edict of Nantes was abolished in 1685, causing thousands of Huguenots to flee France for other countries; England, American, Spain, etc. However, for about 20 years before abolishing the Edict, the Huguenots were severely persecuted. Huguenots, expecting the worst, divided their families and took different escape routes from France, planning to reunite in a specific country.

Those who managed to escape to England made their way to the Threadneedle Street Church in London where they registered and inquired about family and friends. The Church provided food and lodging for a reasonable length of time before sending them on. Huguenot family members promised to send information on their permanent locations to the Threadneedle Street Church who registered over 30,000 Huguenots between 1600 and 1800.

In the book *The History of East Greenwich, RI, 1677-1960*, Martha McPartland describes and provides a plot map for the 50 family Huguenot community known as Frenchtown established in 1686. Frenchtown was located in the Town of East Greenwich, Rhode Island, the very same town where John Olin and Susannah Spencer were married in 1708, raising the first OLIN family in America. By 1717, the true French found it more and more difficult to live among the English colonists and relocated to the north into French controlled Canada.

I failed to find any record or indication that our John Olin or any Olins were Huguenots. No Olins are listed in France, in the Threadneedle Street Church records, or in Frenchtown, Rhode Island.

Clayton P. Olin of Lisbon, New Hampshire, shared his feelings, right or wrong, in a letter to his cousin, Florence Lowe Codner of Owego dated 1940. "As for the first John Olin being a Frenchman, don't believe all you see in print. I have looked for OLINVILLE in France

in *Cram's Atlas* and can't find it. But if there was an OLINVILLE in France, why would that make John Olin in Rhode Island a Frenchman?"

My correspondence with the French government was disappointing, finding only that the Olin name originated in France, that no Olins were listed as Huguenots, and a reluctance to continue any search. As a result of this, I selected five Olins from the Paris telephone directory and wrote to them about my Olin search problem in France and asking them if they would be willing to help. Only two of these responded.

Parisian Mme. Olin wrote an interesting letter, claiming that she was born an Olin and married an Olin, a distant cousin. Her family did not know any of their past history and was not really interested, but wished to provide me with details surrounding a search in France. Parish records in many parts of France began about 1500 and became compulsory after 1579. French vital statistics began about 1792 and are located in local notary public offices, district archives and the National Archives in Paris.

Michel Chatelain, who happened to be a relative of Mme Olin, is a teacher of biology and Head Master at the L'Isle-Adam College (High School in the United States) located 35 kilometers north of Paris. His great-grandfather, Louis Olin lived in nearby Parish of Presles. We have been corresponding since 1988. His own family search has been long and tedious and reaches back to 1700 through church registers.

Chatelain comments on the Olin search in general, "Let me point out that the names are sometimes spelled Olin, other times OLLIN, but it is always the same family, as certified by the registrar. At this time the spelling is not really fixed, it is, in some degree, phonetic and the spelling of the last names varies very often depending on the practice and the fancy of the clergymen who record the vital statistics.

From 1685, the name Olin appears more and more often, probably because of higher survival rates for male children. All one can say is that the name Olin is not rare in this region of France, north of Paris, during the second half of the 15th century. The Amiens diocese faces the English Channel which looks at England! Is there a link between the French Olins and your John Olin?"

Chatelain continues "Obviously I thought of the emigration of French Protestants persecuted by the young King Louis XIV since 1661. I went through the Protestant card file, filed in alphabetical order; Olinier appeared several times, but I did not come across the name

Olin/Ollin. The opposite would have presented an interesting trail."

Chatelain has promised to continue searching for our Olin link as he finds time from his own OLIN family search.

Chapter 4

OLIN of The Scandinavian Countries

Sweden nor any other Scandinavian country were not mentioned as possible origin for our John Olin in either of George Nye's or C. C. Olin's books.

In his book, Oran Raber stated, "The name Olin does not occur in Wales, but is frequently found in Sweden. In Normandy, France, (there) is a small town, called OLINVILLE.* This section of France, it will be recalled, was settled by people from Scandinavia."

Raber continues, "The pictures of the early members of the OLIN family show the members to resemble the Swedes more than the Welsh. The fact that he was a sailor indicates a Scandinavian rather than a Welsh origin. He selected a home on the coast which might be expected of a sea-fearing man from the Scandinavian Peninsula. In colonial days, the term 'Welshman' was used to mean a foreigner and one who was not a native of the British Isles, which explains the origin of the Welsh tradition."

In a 1920 *Boston Transcript* genealogical query section, number 9072, C. O. Bailey said, "Late investigations seem to prove that he (John Olin) was not born in Wales, but that he probably came from France or Sweden. It is a Scandinavian name and is not an uncommon name in Sweden and in the variant, Olen, in Norway. Gabriel Olin (1729-1794) was Secretary at the court of Gustavus III of Sweden. His wife was Elizabeth Olin, a famous operatic singer of the middle of the 18th century. John Axel Olin, a distinguished Lutheran preacher, died at Mains in 1911."

Bailey continues, "In Chicago, Minneapolis, and other cities of the middle west with large Scandinavian population, there are numerous Olins and Olens of Swedish and Norwegian birth and parentage. Outside of Scandinavia, the name is not found upon the continent of

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* Old and new maps show that the village of OLINVILLE, France, was spelled OHLINVILLE.

Europe, excepting in France, where the name Olin, probably of Scandinavian origin, appears in the 16th and 17th centuries. The names given by John(1) Olin to his children: John, Joseph, Henry, and Eleanor were not SPENCER family names and, excepting his own name, John, were somewhat uncommon among the original settlers of Rhode Island, excepting among the families of Huguenot origin. Eleanor was especially a very uncommon Rhode Island name in the early 18th century, but it was the name of the Queen Regent of Sweden at the time John(1) Olin was probably born, and also the name of the sister of Charles XII, who succeeded him on the throne of Sweden in 1718 . . . . I am inclined to the belief that John(1) Olin was of Swedish or French origin, although no direct proof of that fact has yet been obtained."

William Closson's information on the Swedish Olin approach appears on page iii in his book. "The name Olin is often recorded as Odin, Odlin, or Ohlen, which might indicate a Scandinavian origin." Two paragraphs later he states, "Of more recent date is the account of the Swedish American Motor Ship, Gripsholm. The Swedish paper expert, Gosta Hall, was on Board with his bride, the daughter of Dr. Carl Olin of Stockholm, first physician to the King."

Stephen H. Olin in his 17-page dissertation to the Honorable John M. Olin believed completely that John(1) Olin came from France and made no mention whatsoever of any Scandinavian country.

A book compiled by Nils W. Olsson in 1967 was published by the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society of Chicago, IL. The title is *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in New York, 1820-1850* and it lists 4,000 Swedes who immigrated through New York City during the 30 years preceding 1850. There were no Olins listed. The nearest to a spelling was one Bolin and two Olund. This is a true indication that the great rush of Olin immigrants from Sweden took place almost 200 years after our John(1) Olin arrived in America, 1678.

Correspondence with several OLIN families who definitely knew that they were descendants of Swedish Olins confirmed that another wave of Swedes migrated to the United States during the last decade of the 1800s. A large island, Oland, located south-east of Sweden suffered severe crop failure coupled with abnormally high birth rates which forced over 25% of the population to leave the island for the United States.

Correspondent, Margaret E. Olin's ancestors, three brothers and a sister left Sweden for the United States near the end of the 19th century following a cholera epidemic that killed their parents. The family had lived in the Skåne area of Sweden since the time of the Huguenot persecutions when they fled France. Although she has no records and only a family tradition, it is plausible.

The following commentary is from an unknown source. "Some stories say John was from Wales, but others think John was either a Swede or from France. John was a tall man with red hair. The people from Great Britain were of medium stature, light hair and light complexion. John could have been from Swedish extraction. The Olin name is not found in Wales but in Sweden. Also the red hair and being tall resemble Swedes more than the Welsh. John was also a sailor, which Scandinavians, were and he selected a home on the coast of Rhode Island which might have been expected of a man from the Scandinavian peninsula."

Then there is the opposite view as expressed by Clayton P. Olin to Florence Lowe Codner. "You know there is a tradition that the first John Olin's hair was red. I had a run-in with a guy once who said that there were Olins out West that were red-headed, and that Swedes were red-headed, consequently our John Olin in Rhode Island was a Swede. I told him that I had never seen an Olin with red hair."

On one of my research trips to the OLIN Library at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, I reviewed several source indexes. In the source index for Social Sciences I found the name, G. Robert Olin, M. Ph.D., who in 1985, among other titles, was the Director of the Occupational Health Services for the pharmaceutical corporation, ASTRA, Sodertälje, Sweden, and who had several scientific publications to his credit. He became an excellent source to partly understand the Swedish patronymic system within a family, as well as his own personal OLIN family history. Dr. Olin provided me with a genealogical booklet written by A. H. Olin in 1905 and was kind enough to translate portions of interest for my benefit.

The history of this OLIN family begins in the early 16th century; yet the name Olin did not appear until the 18th century. This Olin family was the oldest and biggest of the branch originating in Kulla, Skåne, an area on the southern most landscape of Sweden. "Nils (Olsson, who took the family name) Olin[6] was born February 17, 1723, died May 27,

1806. Nils Olin was a Priest, became a Vicar in Stockholm and later on, from 1775, he held a similar position in Väsby and Viken (in Skåne). In 1751 he was married to Eva Beata Törngren. They had six children."

Note the date, 1723, when Nils, born Olsson, was given a new name, Olin. I mention this fact because in any of my Swedish searches for the name Olin, prior to 1700, I failed to find an Olin. I am not saying that there were no such records as there could well be some.

Another bit of Swedish information came from a Swedish family living in Christchurch, New Zealand. It seems that Ernst Frithoff, a Swede, deserted his ship, "Loch Garry", 1878, in Melbourne, Australia. He became the beginning of the OLIN family in the Southern Hemisphere. His daughter, Doreen Olin, married a Mr. Gustafson and is presently living in California, USA. Again the Swedish naming system is confusing as noted from this excerpt from their letter. "Scandinavians often used farm names as a surname or even the name of a previous farm. They will pick a name out of the air if it suits their fancy."

Records of vital statistics in Sweden were not kept to an extent before the second half of the 17th century. Sweden held their first national census in 1749 and that was based primarily on parish records. In Norway, the Danes are required to have a middle name, simply to make it easier to tell each other apart, since half the population share in 14 surnames. In Sweden, middle names are unusual. Swedes are allowed as many first names as they want and some use at least two last names.

It is possible that our John(1) Olin was a Swede but this seems highly improbable. Again, where is the proof?

FÖRTEOKNING
ÖFVER
SKANESLÄKTEN OLIN
AR 1905
UPPRÄTTAD AF TELEGRAFKOMMISSARIEN A. H. OLIN
MALMÖ 1905
STENSTRÖM & BARTELSONS BOKTR.

— A 1905 Swedish OLIN family genealogy record book. —

Chapter 5

LeOlin of Wales

Contrary to OLIN family tradition, our John Olin was not the first Olin to arrive in America. A woman, Johan Olin, arrived sometime between the years 1654 and 1663, before the birth of our original John Olin. She was one of the 10,000 servants sent from the port of Bristol, England to the English foreign plantations between 1654 and 1685. She had probably been jailed for a minor offense in England and deported in lieu of her life to be sold as a slave or indentured servant. Her name is listed as Johan Olin on page 94 for the landing in the Colony of Virginia, North America, 1654-1663 in the book *Passenger and Immigration List Index*, edited by P. William Filby and Mary K. Meyers, 1929.

How could this be? We have determined that there were absolutely no Olins in the British Isles. Welshmen used the given name, Johan, for both sexes: the males Johan pronounced as John and for the female Johan pronounced as Joanne. She was christened Johnan Lluellin, 25 June 1618, the daughter of Thomas Lluellin living in Tideham, Gloucester County, England. The port of Bristol, her port of departure, was also in Gloucester County, one of the English border counties within "The Marches."

If we assume that her family name of earlier generations was the true Llewellyn and had changed over the years to Llluellin and changed again to Olin, presumedly by a clerk recording the list of passengers, why not assume the same transformation for our John Olin?

Johan Olin left England before 1663 as Johan Llewellyn/Lluellin and arrived in America as Johan Olin. If the same logic is applied to our John Olin it may look like this.

John Olin left off the coast of Wales in 1678 as John Llewellyn/LeOlin and arrived in America as John Olin. Other Llewellyns certainly were exposed to similar changes in their rightful name as evidenced by the Mormon Church IGI files showing over 60 variations of the Llewellyn spelling.

In 1665, England was hit hard by the Great Plague, resulting in the deaths of 70,000 people and fragmentation of families. Just one year later, two years after our John Llewellyn/Olin's birth, a catastrophic fire raged through a two mile area of London City. Over 200,000 people of all ranks and degrees were made homeless. London was practically abandoned; 14,000 buildings had been destroyed. These homeless people turned to the countryside, fanning out through western and northern England. Some were fortunate in finding relief with relatives or friends. Others relied on thievery and even murder for their survival. Daring crimes became an epidemic. Such as the state of the country in which the Llewellyns were forced to share.

The majority of the homeless refugees reaching into the Welsh country were illiterate, creating an added burden for the vicars of the local churches. The vicar or minister of the English and Welsh parishes were often reassigned to a different church as part of their training or upgrading. The vicar usually had a little more education than the residents of the parish, but lacked the basic fundamental of the Welsh language, the dialect changes between parishes. The vicar was held responsible for keeping vital statistics for his parish. Pronunciation and misinterpretation of the Llewellyn name account for most of its misspellings.

Rivers, valleys, hills, parishes, villages, and counties in Wales have complicated names assigned to them. Neighboring Welshmen often have trouble understanding each other. An extreme example of this is a small Welch village having the longest name in the British Isles and perhaps in the world. It is called "LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGO-GERYCHWYRNDROBWLLLLANTYSILIOGOGOGOCH" meaning "Church of Saint Mary in a hollow of white hazel near to a rapid whirlpool, and Saint Tysilio's Church of the red cave."

I have intensified the search for the Llewellyn/OLIN family in Wales because of two findings. The discovery of Johan Lluellin's name change to Olin demonstrated that the same could have happened to our John Llewellyn/Olin. While reading the book, *The Welcome Claimants: Proved, Disproved and Doubtful*, Penn's Colony Vol. II, published 1985 by the Welcome Society of Pennsylvania, p. 441, I became intrigued by a statement in the history of the Rodeney Family. "One Mr. Rice Davies . . . reported to Sir Edward that there was in Wales a river called Aebba Rodeney, because Rodeneys had been slain there. The

The Bubonic Plague of 1665 in London City caused 1,000 corpses a day to be thrown without mercy into mass graves. Human control of the disease was unheard of and was thought to come from divine intervention.

The great fire of 1666 drove thousands and thousands of families into the countryside as four fifths of London City was reduced to ashes.

Pedigree identified these men as Sir Richard Rodeney, who, with his elder son, Richard, was slain at Hereford in 1234 by LeOlin, Prince of Wales, obviously Llewellyn, ap Iorwerth." The idea that a misunderstanding in the interpretation and recording of our John Llewellyns name possibly to LeOlin and then to Olin was reinforced.

Stephen H. Olin in his reference to John[1] Llewellyn running off into the woods and changing his name to Olin had this to say, "If a Welsh boy in the English colony of Rhode Island laid aside Llewellyn, the noblest of Welsh names, he would choose in its place either a Welsh or an English name — one taken from his past or from his present surroundings — but Olin is neither Welsh nor English."

There might easily be creation of names, for everyone might create his own. But in fact, the creation of a name is rare. Names endure unchanged, or they develop by small additions or translations, or changes in sound or spelling.

A review of the Mormon Church IGI files for Wales revealed the surname LeOlin up into the 18th century. Not many were listed, but enough to encourage further research.

LeOlins lived in "The Marches", both sides of the Wales and England border. The name LeOlin was anglicized from the 13th through the 17th century. I felt it was necessary to explore the connection between Llewellyn/LeOlin/Olin by enlisting the aid of five Welsh Family Historical Societies in an around the "Marches." Each published my full page story in their quarterly journals. One of the more informative responses was from Gwyn Rhys of Cardiff, Wales who submitted the following, "The Llantwit Fardre Parish in Glamorgan, 1676, 23rd July: Baptized . . . son of LeOlin Jenkin."

Gwyn Rhys commented, "Unfortunately, the register is in very poor condition and it is not possible to decipher the name of the child. The entry is in fact in Latin (using the form LeOlinus.) There are baptisms for other children of the same father, dating between 1664 and 1679, the only legible names being Gwenllian and Rees or Rice. It is clear, however, that the name (LeOlin(us) was in use in this parish at that date as a form of Llewellyn (which spelling also appears occasionally.)"

Other responses were polite in a negative way by reminding me that records prior to 1700 were scarce, incomplete and for the most part, illegible. They agreed that they have seen records that seem to vacillate between Llewellyn and LeOlin within a family.

I also joined the Welsh organization in the United States known as the Welsh-American Genealogical Society (WAGS). Through them, I was fortunate in soliciting help from Mari (Mary) Lloyd of Utica, New York. She was born in Wales, graduated from the University of Wales at Aberystwyth and taught in the same college until her marriage. Mari

Lloyd speaks, writes, and teaches the Welsh language, including several of their local dialects. She writes, "When the first census was taken after Wales lost its independence, many changes were made in Welsh names. In the Welsh system the oldest son took the name of the father; such as, Dafydd (David) ap (son of) Dafydd which later may have become David Davies . . . . There are so many different spellings of Llewellyn, which was one of the most difficult names to say and spell. In my Welsh classes in America I have found that the sound of the diphthong 'ew' is very difficult for students to pronounce. There is no comparable sound in English. The 'e' appears in a noun like hen and the 'w' is a 'oo' as in soon. Place them together and you get the 'ew' sound! I can understand how 'ew' became 'eo' as in LeOlin and the weak consonant 'l' being dropped at some point!"

The third edition of the *Oxford Dictionary of English Christian Names*, published 1977 in Great Britain and written by E. G. Withycombe has this final sentence added to the history of the name Llewel(l)yn. "A French form 'LeOlina' occurs in cur 1213."

It is now understood that the surname Olin in Wales has resulted from a metamorphic change from Llewellyn to LeOlin to Olin. Many years later some descendants of our John[1] Olin allowed their Olin name to become Olden or Olan. Changes in the Olin name have not hindered the growth of the Olin clan.

I have in no way proven that our John Olin was a Llewellyn/LeOlin but I have tried to show that it is possible. Perhaps future researchers will be conclusive in their findings.

Chapter 6

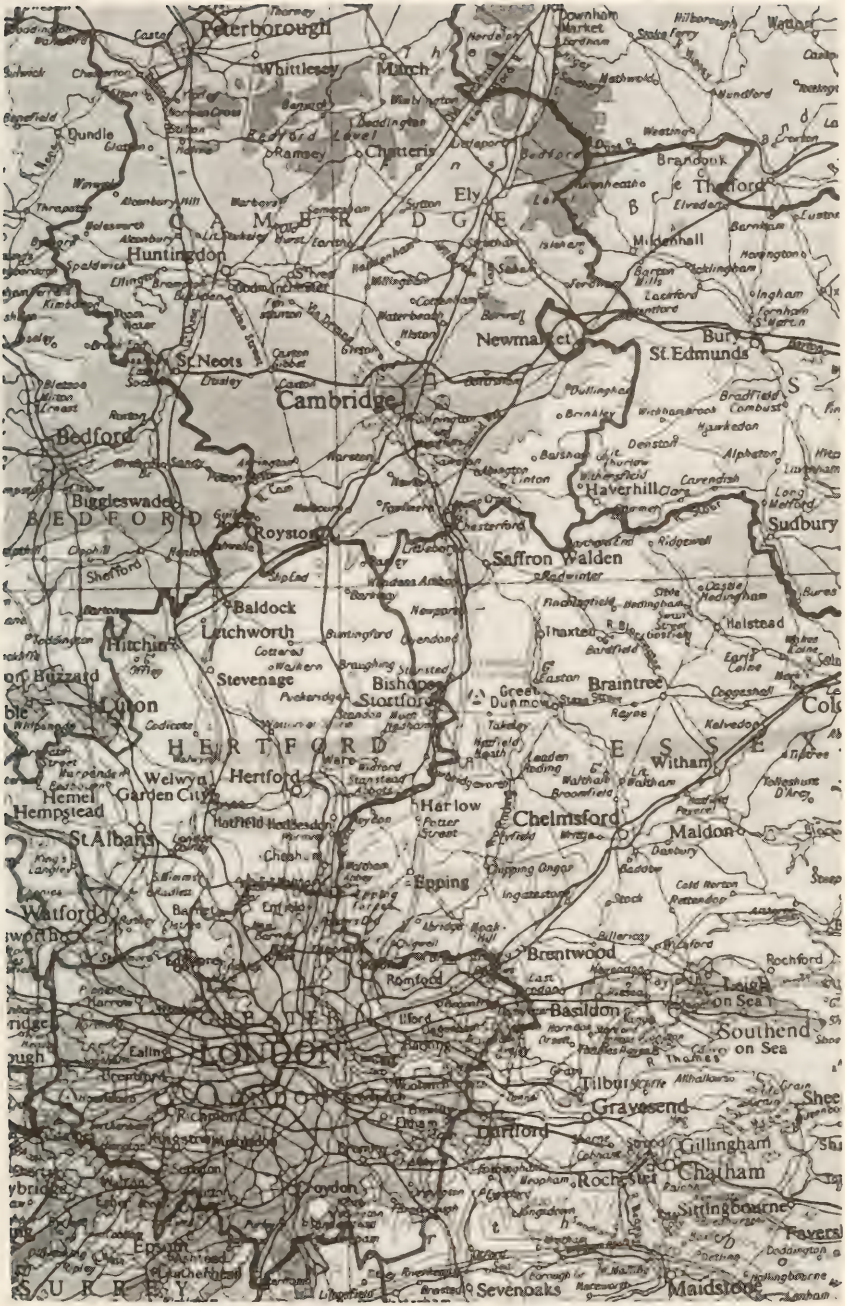
OLIN Origin — Conclusion

Hundreds of years have slipped by since the arrival of our John Olin in New England. We may never know the truth about his origin. Future Historians will continue to speculate and disagree with each other. The preceding material is filled with family traditions, supportive findings and arguments, and personal opinions of past researchers and historians. Documented information from known recognized sources have been compiled into independent country groupings, and provides the future Olin researchers the advantage of having one comparable source base.

In preparation for my best and believable explanation of our OLIN origin, I have had to make some obvious, perhaps argumentive statements or decisions. For instance, Authors and Historians, George S. Nye and C. C. Olin were the first to publicly present the tradition of our John Olin changing his name from Llewellyn. Author James Edmonds had the same full tradition without the deliberated name change and had made it public two generations earlier. Perhaps George S. Nye enhanced the earlier version in order to show that the Olins were descendants of Prince Llewellyn of Wales. Nye provided information about the history surrounding Prince Llewellyn but failed to demonstrate a relationship to our John Olin. C. C. Olin parroted Nye's descriptive, non-committed story and added 75 pages about himself.

Based on no positive proof of my own or past Historians' comments, I consider the Llewellyn to Olin portion of our tradition not to be. I also consider the metamorphic change of Llewellyn/LeOlin/Olin as applied to our John Olin not to be true. Yes, there were Olins in Wales at the time, but I now go on record to say that our John Olin was not a Welshman nor were his ancestors.

I will also go on record to say our John Olin was not of Scandinavian descent. All the traditions about red hair, height, complexion, and fisherman do little to convince me of his native land. Generations of intermarriages have a tendency to mix the genes in a person's physical makeup. There was only an assumption made about a fishing situation. The fact that the Olin name was relatively not used before 1700 negates Sweden as our Olin origin.



This map shows the Bedford, Hertford, and Essex Counties north of London, England where Olin/Ollin families lived as early as 1580.

As you can see, I have not eliminated France or England from our OLIN Family traditions. Although I failed to establish any positive proof, many coincidental findings have fallen in place. I believe our Olin ancestors were originally from France, probably from or near Ohlinville, Normandy, which was known to have been in existence AD 1200. John Olin's ancestors fled France during the early years of persecution of Protestants, around 1500 AD or earlier, perhaps then lived for a while on the Isle of Wight while enroute to England Proper. By taking this route, they could not register at the Threadneedle church in London. However, the French exiles were herded to a common area north and close to London City where they were allowed to live in peace.

Herein lies one of the coincidences. The area where the French Olins were allowed to live was in Befordshire, Hertfordshire, and Essex Counties of England. The Spencer family lived in Bedfordshire. This accounts for the tradition that the two families were acquainted before John and Susannah's marriage in East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

The Spencer family also were originally French, having their known start in AD 912 in Normandy of all places. The Spencer name was originally d'Hauteville, changing in England, 1066 to De Le Spenser, changing again ca AD 1256 to DeSpencer and finally the last change ca 1456 to Spencer.

What does this tells us? Our Ancestors, John and Susannah (Spencer) Olin were English, but their ancestors were French. We, the Olins, Oldens, and Olans, descendants of John and Susannah (Spencer) Olin are truly English with French origins undoubtedly!!!

There have been and still are many OLIN families in France, contrary to Stephen H. Olin's comments otherwise. What about Olins existence in England? We have been told repeatedly that none ever existed. However, Philip A. Raymond, another Olin cousin from Canada, discovered a record that he thought would be of interest to me. He found that a John Sanford, born 1610 in Hatfield, Broad Oak, Essex, England, had married Olive Olin, September 1679.

How could this be. Past and present professional researchers, in and out of the OLIN family and many publications, have emphatically assured us that no Olins have been recorded in England. I needed to investigate this new development.

As the Historian for my County, Tioga, in New York State, I had

just completed a rather lengthy genealogical search for Margaret E. Probert of Worcestor, England and in her thank-you letter she asked if she could help me in my English search. This wonderful lady, a non-professional researcher, found dozens of Olins, at least five different families, some with three generations. The spelling variations were a perfect match to the spellings that Michel Chatelain had found in France: Olin, Ollin, and Ollen. Twenty Olin names were recorded before 1700 in Hertfordshire, the same county that the Spencer family was living in. The earliest record that Mrs. Probert found was a Baptism 22 January 1580 for a John Olin in Chipping Ongar, Essex County, an area with a ten-mile radius, twelve miles north of London, England, encompasses most of the Olins and Spencers during the period from 1500 to 1700.

I am convinced that further searches will uncover the parents of and the birth of our English John Olin.

In reviewing the years involving the persecutions of the French Huguenot or Protestant, I find that the Great Massacre of St. Barthalomew's Day took place on August 24, 1572, when thousands of people were murdered. Families were fleeing for their lives, expecting any minute to be the next victims. Normandy was north of Paris, facing the English Channel. Families could flee to Denmark to the east or brave the channel crossing to England. At times, it would be impossible to predict where they would make shore in England. I believe the Olins were Protestants, but not Huguenots. Nevertheless, they were hunted down as Huguenots. They may have landed on any part of the English southern shore, including the Isle or Wight, eventually finding a permanent home north of London.

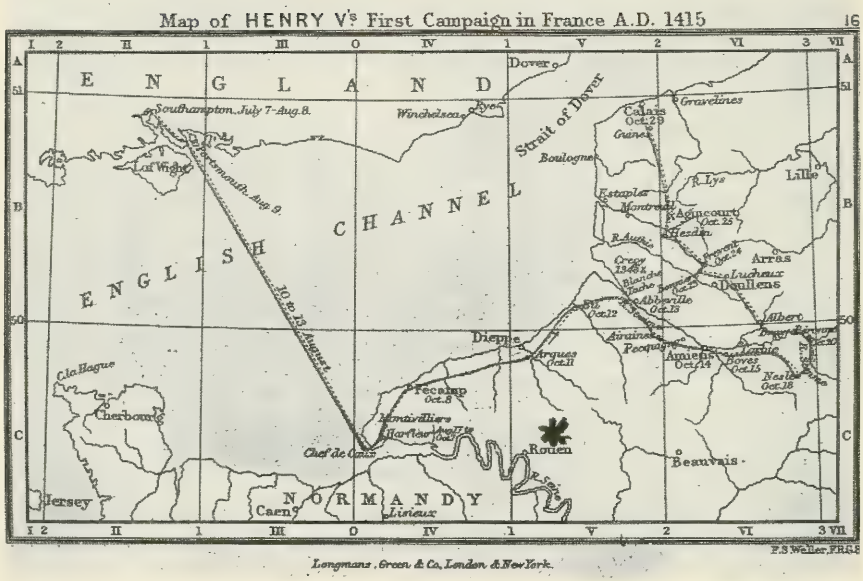
I strongly believe that the frustrations over our OLIN origin will soon end. If not finalized by me, it certainly will be a challenge to others. The right path has been defined; now the brush needs to be cleared away.

Scientists have discovered that hidden within the DNA of each human being is a record of that person's ethnic history. It is a chronicle that begins in humanity's dim evolutionary past and traces the ancient migrations and ancestral intermixings that have shaped every tribe and culture on earth.

To prove their theory as practical, a $3B project has been proposed, called "The Human Genome Diversity Project." Wouldn't it

be great if our grandchildren would be able to insert their ID card into one of these "Genealogical-ethnic machines" and resolve their origin as simply as that?

Map of HENRY V's First Campaign in France AD 1415



It seems highly possible that an Olin/Ollin family in France (hand marked*) either fled to England trying to escape religious persecution during the early 1500s or accompanied one of the English campaign return trips as a converted soldier or a retainer of sorts. The above map indicates the normal British Channel crossing during the 14-1500s as being from Harfleur, France northwest to Portsmouth, England, east of the Isle of Wight.

PART II

John Olin's Arrival in America

"One generation passeth away
And another generation cometh:
But the earth abideth forever!"

—Ecclesiastes 1:4

Chapter 7

Kidnapped by English "Press Gang" and His Escape from "*Man-O-War*"

Fourteen-year old John Olin, awakened by the ringing of the ship's bell, knew immediately that his ship had dropped anchor. He rolled off his floor pallet in the impressed seaman's quarters, hitched up his worn knee length britches, tucked in his shirt, looked aft to the only door, a barred door where other prisoners were waiting for the Marine guards to escort them to the deck above where they could relieve themselves and splash cold salt water over their faces.

Yesterday, they had heard rumors that land had been sighted. Where remained a mystery to John and his luckless companions. The English *Man-O-War* had been at sea for five months, roaming the northern Atlantic waters looking for signs of English enemies: the Dutch and the French. All three countries were interested in gaining control of the new lands of North America. The French were in areas now known as upper Maine and Nova Scotia, Canada. The Dutch were in New Amsterdam (New York) and the British were split, centered on the North Coast around the Massachusetts Colony and from Philadelphia South to the Carolinas. Each nation was concentrating to establish productive and profitable colonies; actual sea battles were few and far between. The Captain of the English *Man-O-War* had orders to participate in naval battle when confronted or at his discretion. He was

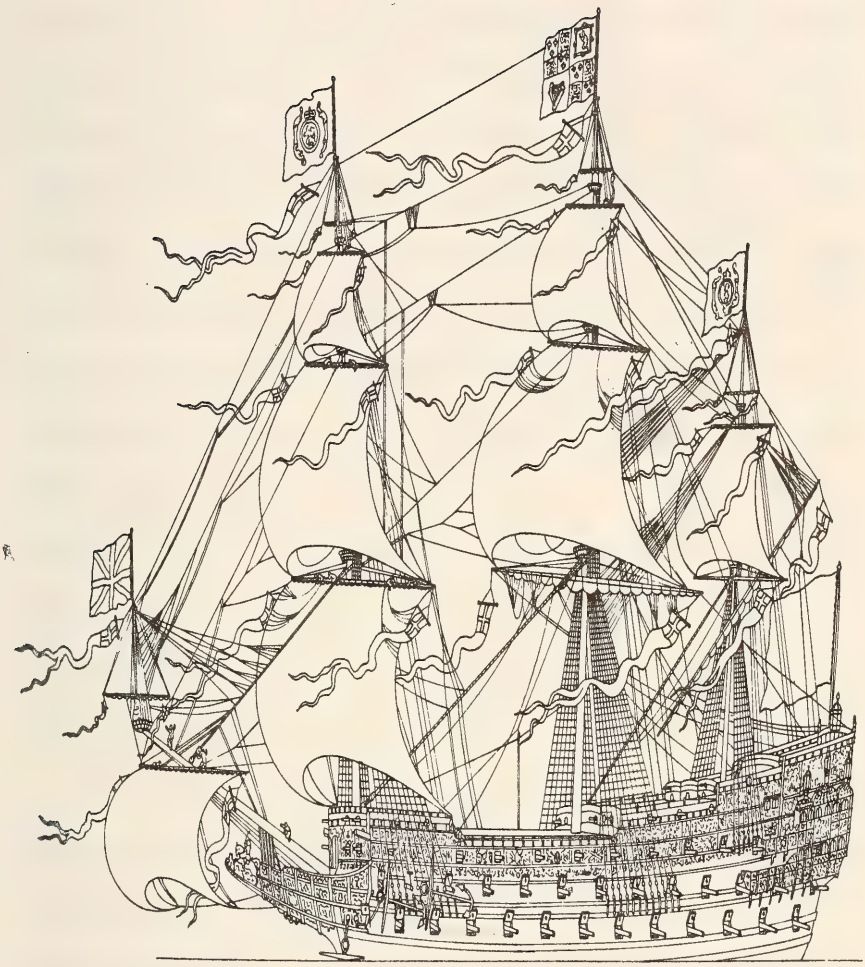
to create a presence of intimidation to the colonists by a show of guns. The *Man-O-War* carried 150 Marines scheduled to be landed in the Massachusetts Colony to help protect the colonists from the French and Indians and to encourage the assigned Governor to cooperate in paying taxes promptly to the English Parliament.

It was known throughout the British Isles that English Navy Captains and, in some cases, private merchanteers were short of able bodied seamen, primarily because of London's Great Plague of 1665, that snuffed out over 70,000 lives. Consequently, professional "press gangs" kidnapped and provided questionable able-bodies men and boys, as young as twelve years old, to round out a Captain's paid crew. Unsuspecting males found near the wharves of seaports of any sizable British Isles coastal villages were abducted by force and "pressed" on board a ship. Once aboard, they became prisoners, required to serve at the Captain's whim with no compensation and very little mercy.

While waiting for the guards to open the door, John thought back to how he became a prisoner on this ship. His parents lived in the county of Hertfordshire, England, 25 miles north of London where their ancestors had been forced to settle after their flight from France in the 16th century. Two years before, John was allowed to accompany an older cousin, who also happened to be his best friend, to the growing and thriving city of Portsmouth. Portsmouth was a seaport on the English Channel about 50 miles south of London. The boys were warned to stay away from the shipping docks after daylight hours.

Portsmouth proved to be depressing to the young boys. During the first year they found little or no work of consequence. They barely existed, fighting hunger and failure, not wanting to return home and admit defeat. They decided to travel 130 miles to the West where the large ship building yards were said to need help. The City of Plymouth was also noted as a port of provisioning for Navy and privateer vessels before departing on the high seas. Within two weeks of their arrival, John's cousin found a full time job as a drayman, making deliveries for a brewery. Life in Plymouth became easier now that they could obtain adequate food and their young bodies once again began to fill out as those of young men should.

A few months later, John's luck changed when he read a sign "WANTED — EXPERIENCED CARPENTER" for one of the ship building yards. At first, he was turned down because of no experience.



A typical 17th Century British *Man-O-War* used in naval battles that enabled the British to gain superiority over the Spanish, Dutch and French. The *Man-O-War* superseded the popular Galleon, proving to be faster and deadlier as a battleship. It was capable of transporting up to 200 trained Marines, independent of the ship's crew, for fighting engagements on shore.

The design of the flag displayed off the bow was not used by the British until early 1800. At the time of John Olin's impressed service, 1678, the British flag was simply the red cross of St. George on a field of white.

On the way out of the yard he became intrigued watching a brawny fellow shaping a square timber from a round log without using a saw. The man squared the parallel sides with a broad ax as he walked along on top of the log. Then he turned the log 90 degrees to allow him to square the other two sides. The carpenter recognized John's interest and asked him if he would like to try it. After a half-hour, they agreed that John had an eye for dimensional trueness but lacked the muscles for the deep cuts required by a broad ax. Failing to hide his disappointment, he asked the carpenter how he could get experience if he wasn't allowed to work at it? The carpenter liked the looks and attitude John displayed and suggested strongly to the owner that this boy had the eye and desire to become a carpenter and that he would personally spend the necessary time to train him on a specific job without any delays of his own work. Normally, only indentured boys were allowed to receive training while working. However, the seven-year indenture commitment seemed unfair to both the boy and owner who may have been planning to be in business only for a short time. John was hired to work as a "shaver" at very low wages, subject to dismissal at any time. A "shaver" in a shipyard converted a long round log into a smooth pole used for a mast or spars. Most poles required a taper, end to end, and absolute smoothness with no slivers to snag the sails or ropes. John was happy earning a living, learning a trade, and becoming expert in using the draw knife.

The shipyard operated only during daylight hours. Workers traveled back and forth from their homes during the dark, the same hours when the press gangs were most successful. John, remembering the family warning, was careful to leave the yard with other men every night. But on the night of his fateful abduction, the owner allowed those who wished to celebrate St. David's Day to leave a little earlier. John, brought up as a Baptist, elected not to leave early but to continue his shaving until it was too dark to see his work. Only a few men remained to leave that dark night and none of them was going in John's direction. Caught by surprise, he was gagged, tied and carried aboard a *Man-O-War* by the press gang where he was locked up in the ship's orlop along with dozens of other hapless souls. It was two weeks before the ship put out to sea in the year 1678.

After the orlop's door was opened and after his morning awakening ritual was finished. John rushed to the galley where he, as one of the

cabin boys, served food and tea to the officers. John performed his job without receiving a lot of complaints. He felt lucky to be a part of the roster of boys rotated through serving mess not only to the officers but to the regular crew, the Marines, and best of all to the Captain. The unlucky boys remained in the galley and kitchen, tending the fires, scrubbing turnips and carrots, washing pots and pans, cleaning tables, and carrying food supplies up from the ship's hold. It was around-the-clock work, scheduled to coincide with the ship's four changings of the watch. It was always exciting for John to serve the Captain in his cabin on top deck astern. John marveled at the sight of blue sky, the sun, fluffy white clouds, the calm seas, or the dark threatening clouds accompanied by strong winds and high waves; at night millions of stars and the bright moon cast a shimmering glow over the waters. Whatever the weather, he gained appreciation seeing God's world after being confined in the bowels of the ship.

The impressed men were locked in their quarters, unless they pulled supervised duty. Food, usually a gruel made of mixed grains was delivered to them in buckets. Each man dipped his bowl in for his share twice a day. Water was rationed and even then was bad tasting. Living conditions in the orlop were unbearable; there were only four feet between decks. Duty was preferred by most prisoners over the confinement restricted to prone or squatting positions.

After three days of no wind to fill the sails, the Captain ordered out three long boats manned by twelve impressed men as oarsmen and four Marines as guards. The long boats were attached by ropes to the large ship. Once the great ship was underway, it was pulled forward on course at about three knots. Four days later, winds once again filled the sails; meanwhile, the Captain had gained almost 100 nautical miles on course.

Whenever a stop was made for provisioning or repair, the impressed men were not allowed on the decks of ship, but were kept under double guard in the orlop,unable to see a mountain or green shores. This added to the feeling of despair felt by John and the other impressed men.

Escape plots rarely succeeded because there were always informants. John learned to keep his own counsel and not share his thoughts and feelings with others. This increased his feeling of loneliness.

Whenever a rule made by a ships officer was broken, the Captain took disciplinary action, ordering punishment by flogging with leather whips or binding in chains. Everyone was forced to watch the merciless and degrading whippings. John hated them and vowed never to whip anyone. Morale was so bad, the Captain often found it necessary to keep the impressed men locked up to prevent suicide by jumping overboard.

While John was serving mess to the ship's officers, he overheard them talking of going ashore to visit the ladies and to enjoy some good food and drink. John still had no idea where the ship had anchored when suddenly he heard the second mate mention how big Boston had grown since he last seen it three years ago. Boston! Boston, in the Colony of Massachusetts, on the Continent of North America! He had heard a lot about this great land of opportunity and feverently wished that he could at least get a glimpse of it. But when he finished serving the officers' mess he was required to return to his quarters until his next scheduled assignment.

Lying on his pallet, unable to sleep because he kept thinking of what he was missing in not seeing America, John switched his thoughts to his other duty: not of "cabin boy" but of "powder monkey" Normally, a "powder monkey" on a British *Man-O-War* was a boy trained to fetch and carry cartridges for a cannon during fighting engagements. The cannon deck was usually the main deck or the one below it, if it was above the water line. The cannon balls and shot were stored on the same deck as the cannons, and the powder cartridges used to fire the cannon were stored one or two decks below. The entrance to the magazine was guarded by a wooden screen through which a gunner's mate shoved the cartridges out via a small armhole. A "powder monkey", like John and the other cabin boys, participated with the gunners at practice drills. The boys would run up and down the ship's ladders, to and from their assigned cannon, keeping them supplied with cartridges.

During a naval battle, the enemy's shot (at times red hot) would fly in all directions making it necessary for the "powder monkeys" to protect the cartridges by wrapping them in their jackets. John did not own a jacket simply because he was impressed when he wasn't wearing one. Thinking it the right thing to do, he stripped off his shirt and used it to wrap the cartridge. Noticing John's bare torso, the first mate halted

the drill to ask John about his jacket. Upon hearing that John had none, he ordered a seaman to find "saw bones" (ship's doctor) and tell him to remove the coat from the sailor who wasn't expected to live the day through and to bring it up to John. The jacket proved to be much too large for John but he was able to continue practice in the right manner and he appreciated the warm coat as the weather was becoming cool.

JOHN DESERTS BRITISH *Man-O-War*

In the fall of 1678, the *Man-O-War* had entered Boston Bay, sailed a short way up the Charles River and anchored equidistance between the shores of Charlestown and Beacon Hill. The Marines were landed, papers from the British Parliament were delivered to the Governor, supplies exchanged, and provisions and water replenished aboard ship. The Captain was impatient to move his ship back into the Atlantic. Colonists had informed him that three days earlier two French warships were plying back and forth in outer Boston Bay and were last seen heading south. The big English warship could not be moved, however, as there was no wind. Again the Captain ordered two long boats lowered, manned by regular seamen, not impressed men, as oarsmen. By waiting until the ebb tide, it was easier for the oarsmen to move the ship around and down the river. When the ship turned into the lesser bay, the first mate assumed command and the Captain retired to his cabin for his evening meal.

As luck would have it, our John Olin, cabin boy, was scheduled to serve the Captain's meal that evening. When he came up onto the main deck he was amazed to see the shore with all the tall trees and an occasional dwelling. Even more startling was the absence of the ship's crew. He wondered about that as he climbed the stairs to the top deck and placed the Captain's meal on his table. The Captain appeared satisfied with the mess and dismissed John with a wave of his hand. After closing the Captain's cabin door, John looked toward the bow and noticed a large group of seamen looking forward watching the two long boats with oarsmen pulling the large ship. No one was looking toward John. It was almost dark and a moon was rising on the eastern horizon. John quickly made a desperate decision. Shrugging off his jacket he ran to the starboard rail and jumped overboard. No one had seen him go and he was not missed until the next morning during the Captain's muster roll call. The Captain dispensed with the notice of returning to

the bay for a search and entered the word "run" in his log, signifying desertion of a boy. After all, a cabin boy could easily be replaced at his next port of call. Besides, he was far more interested in pursuing the two French ships.

Meanwhile, John was desperately trying to reach shore. He was not a strong swimmer and was tiring quickly. By the time he crawled on to land, darkness had overtaken him. He looked around and was relieved not to see anyone as he scurried into a clump of trees. Noticing a faint light through the trees, he cautiously walked toward it and saw that it was a light coming through a dwelling window. He was about to move in closer when suddenly a door opened and three men came out onto the path to the beach. John dove under an upturned boat praying that the pounding of his heart and laboring of his lungs would not give him away. As the men passed by, unaware of John, they talked about new taxes that the British Parliament might impose on them. One of the men said that they would find out soon enough when they reached their meeting house. Another said that the Governor probably had new instructions delivered by the Captain of the *Man-O-War* that had just pulled out.

The very mention of the *Man-O-War* set John's teeth chattering and his body shivering. He was cold, wet, scared, a stranger illegally in this new world. What if the Captain ordered his ship to return and find him? Would he somehow notify the local authorities of his escape and request his apprehension? John decided he must keep out of sight of everyone, particularly in the coastal villages. Aboard the great ship, some of the older impressed men told him that press gangs operated openly in the seaports of the American Colonies. His only recourse, he thought, would be to head away from the coast, travel only during the dark of the night, and try to follow paths or roads that lead to the west. Now that he had a plan, John quietly crawled out from under the boat, circled around the dwelling and discovered a well beaten path leading away from the cabin and away from the shore.

He walked all that night and the next avoiding people by hiding in the brush or behind giant trees. He slept during the daylight hours, usually under low hanging boughs of hemlocks. He was still wet because of intermittent rain showers which kept the low limbs, grass and brush soaked. He longed for the luxury of the oversized coat he had left behind. His food was limited to what he recognized, wild

apples, pears and some nuts.

By the third night, John rationalized his bearings by the sun and the North Star. He had been traveling west and now felt that he was far enough from the coast to alter his direction to south west. Maybe this air would be a little warmer.

After five days and nights, John was very tired, hungry, his feet were bleeding with open cuts, his shoes were stolen from him on the ship, his head was plugged with a snotty cold, and all signs of paths or roads had disappeared. He decided to walk openly in the day time, too miserable to be afraid of the past and becoming concerned about his future. At mid morning, he found a small stream of cool sparkling clear water. After satisfying his thirst, he sat on the stream bank feeling sorry for himself. He was lost, hungry, afraid, an had miraculously avoided making any contact with another human being. In his discouragement, he fell into a deep slumber, a welcome relief from his worries. He thought he was dreaming when he felt something poking him in his ribs startling him awake.

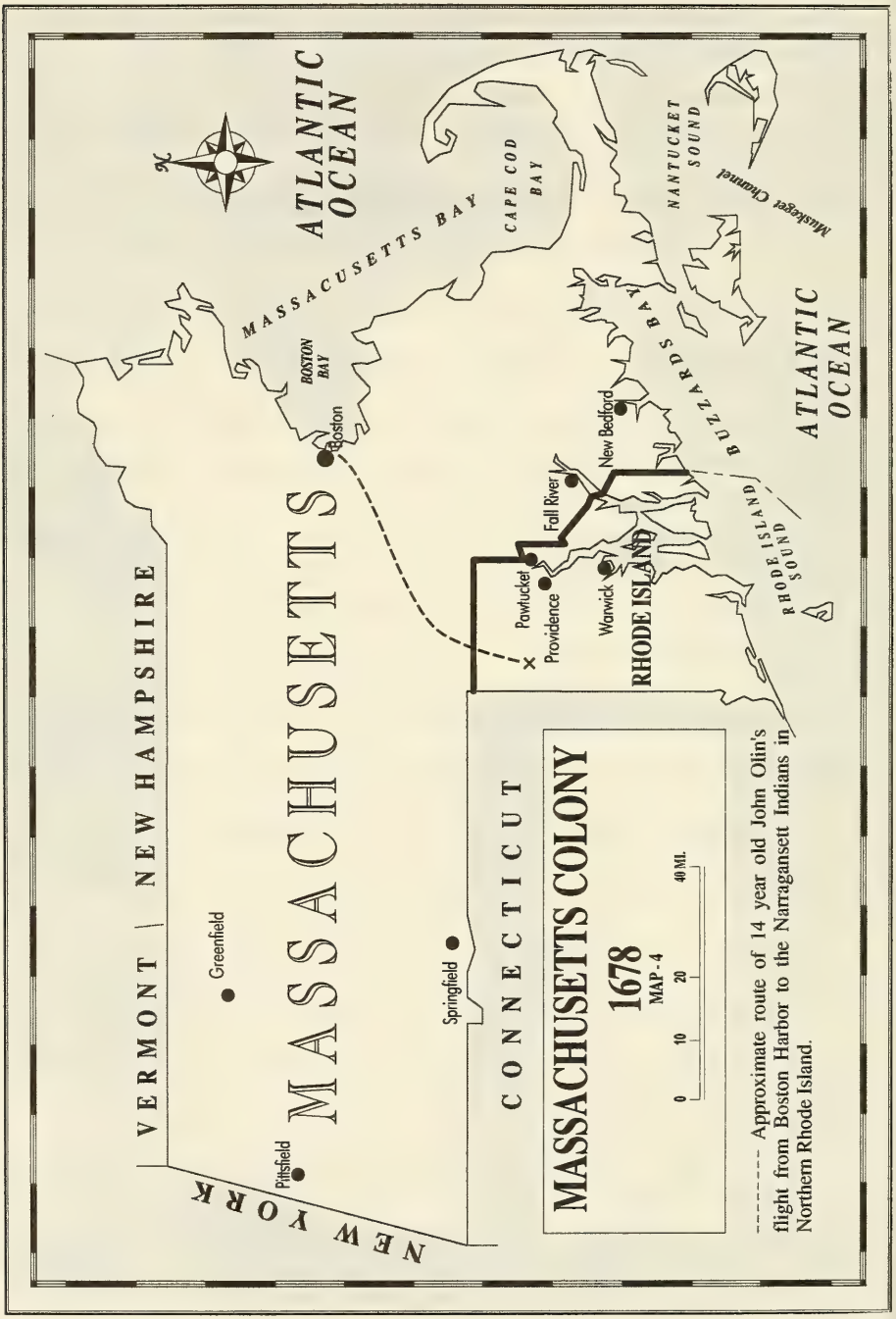
John found himself looking at three bronze colored men, different from any men he had ever seen before. They were bare footed, bare bodied except for a flap over their privates and yet their bodies were clean and healthy looking.

They poked him again and spoke in a commanding voice. John jumped to his feet, frightened but trying not to show it and guessed that these men must be American natives, Indians, as the British called them. He knew that Indians had a reputation for killing not only men but women and children as well as stealing from the colonists and burning their dwellings. Yet these men did not make any threats, but just walked around him calmly making guttural sounds. They recognized his youthful appearance, saw no weapons of any sort, and stared at his physical conditioning; bloody feet and gaunt belly.

The Indians made signs for John to follow one of them while the others followed behind. A short time later they arrived at a small Indian encampment where John was washed, fed, doctored and allowed to sleep.

In a couple of weeks the camp was packed up and moved to a permanent winter site. The Indians gave John the name "Sleeping Turtle," obviously from their first encounter with him on the creek bank. A mutual agreement was put in place; John would not try to run

away and the tribe would accept him in their family. He lived with them for eight years, adapting to their way of living and learning their language, the Narragansett dialect.



Chapter 8

Life with the Narragansett Indians

During the 1600s the Indians of New England were of small tribes, not united as was the interior lake country "Iroquois Nation". Each tribe had their own dialect but were able to communicate with each other and, for the most part, lived congenially adjacent to each other, each respecting the others territory. The outlet of a lake or the headwaters of a stream was considered a neutral ground among the various tribes, a place for council fires. Each tribe was governed by a council of leaders headed by their Sachem or Chief. The most common language or universal was representative of the Alongonquian Tribe or the Narragansett dialect. Roger Williams, founder of the Rhode Island Colony, 1643, used English orthography to approximate actual Indian pronunciation, and incorporated it into a book 'A Key Into the Languages of America'. Some of the most common words that John became familiar with did not have the English letters: B, D, F, J, V, Y, or Z, such as:

papoós - an infant
péisses - a small child
nósh - my father
nummíttamus - my wife
nunnaumon -my son
nissese - my uncle
nétop - friend
neén - I
neen - kuttánnum-ous - I will help you
hawúnshech - farewell
askuttaaquopsin - how do you
sohquttahhash - boiled kernels of corn
wampun - white shell money
toh kittinnoowam - what do you say
ouwán -mist (possibly pronounced Olin)

okásu - a mother
okummes - aunt
keén - you
squáws - a woman
matta - no
nux - yes
tamóccon - a flood
touohkomuk - forest
nickómmo - a feast
wuttáhimneash - strawberries
mockusśinchass - shoes
netasúog - cattle

John learned to live with two serious problems that existed within the Indian's living quarters, particularly in the winter months, lice and rats. Lice not only existed on their bodies, they infested all the garments which were made of different furs, since lice are not choosy between beaver, bear, or mink. Lice were not a severe problem during the warm months as the Indians could take daily baths in the relatively warm waters of the streams or lakes. The Narragansetts usually tried to locate their winter camp near a protective cave in the side of a hill or bank where they would construct a sauna type bath facility. The floor would be scraped clean and level and boulders from the stream would be brought into the center of the cave. Dry wood was piled in the circle of boulders, set afire, eventually heating the boulders. Water was sprinkled on the hot rocks forming steam that would fog up the interior. The entrance to the cave was covered by deer hides to retain the heat and moisture. After a half hour of this steam bath, the Indians would run for the stream, jump in and whoop loudly.

Shelters were not rat proof and rats appreciated the warmth and abundance of food lying around. Wooden or reed baskets were no problem to a rat's destructive and hungry nature as they sampled stored corn, nuts, smoked fish or venison or dried fruits and berries. Rats were even found in the stew pots in the morning if the fire was allowed to burn down during the night. During periods of food shortage, John joined the others in eating the stew anyway, without complaint. If the hut and furs were too badly infested by lice and rats, the hut would be set afire, furs and all. The family moved on with others to collect more furs for themselves and for sale to the colonists.

John admired Indian ingenuity in making large pots or cauldrons from boles of hardwood or from the workable birch log in place of metal pots for cooking. These wooden utensils were suspended over hot coals only, rather than a flaming fire that would set the pot afire. A flaming fire would be off to the side to serve as the source for fresh hot coals under the pot.

The Indian squaws had a variety of reed baskets designed for special purposes. Some stored shelled corn and smaller ones held ground corn. There were baskets for various nuts, fruit, fresh and dried smoked meats, herbs, odd pieces of furs, tools, ornaments and special ones with looped overhead handles for picking berries, fruit, gathering nuts and bringing in large amounts of fish.

John's favorite meal was ground corn sweetened or mixed with fresh berries in season or dried berries in the off season. He learned to trap using snares of ropes made from grape or willow vines for small game and larger woven snares for deer. More deer were taken by snares than by bow and arrow. In hard times, John shared in eating acorns and even the bark of oak trees preferring them boiled rather than raw. John had his own stone knife made of hard flint and sharpened to a fine edge. The knife was shaped to fit in the palm of his hand, and as the Indians, he was very protective of it. It was used for slitting the throats of animals, removing their hides, shaping bowls, cutting reeds, and cutting meat and fish into pieces. When the Indian found a source for flint rock, considerable effort was made to salvage all the pieces useable for arrow tips and an assortment of knives. On one occasion, John discovered a long thin piece of flinty stone and he spent hours fashioning a draw knife. When he proudly demonstrated its use to the Indians, it proved to be a real labor saver in shaping and smoothing canoe paddles.

John learned to tap maple trees for the sap used to make maple sugar. He bored a small hole with a pointed stone into the bark of the tree and inserted a hollow, swamp willow spike to divert the sap into a bucket on the ground. The buckets of sap were collected in the evening and stored near the hut overnight. Early in the morning, the ice was removed and the remaining sap was added to the English-made iron kettles over a hot fire. When the Indians used wooden pots, red hot stones were added to evaporate the water from the sweet sap. The hot stones had to be constantly rotated from fire to pot, a long process to get the sap reduced to sugar. Maple sugar and honey were the Indians only true sweeteners. Maple sugar had to last from late winter, through the summer, into early fall until the bees stored enough honey in a hollow tree for the bears and Indians to find.

The most interesting and enjoyable chore that John performed while living with the Narragansetts was fishing. He made fish lines from small delicate wild grape vines. Hooks were made from bone that had a natural configuration, such as partridge breastbone. It took patience and skill to actually land a fish but the streams and lakes were well populated with bass, trout, eels, perch and pickerel. John helped to make fine grape vine nets used for fishing weirs in streams to trap unwary fish which were scooped out by hand and thrown to the bank.

When a feast was planned or fish were to be dried or salted, the weirs were used to channel fish into a pool of still water where they were easily caught when the pool was drained.

The tribe that John was associated with obtained their drinking water from a spring upstream from the village. A special area downstream and downwind near a dense stand of hemlocks was used exclusively for toilet functions. Squaws were bare breasted, wearing only a wrap-around type skirt. The men were naked except for a small breechcloth. Each person and each family respected the privacy of others.

Sleeping Turtle had a good home and had many friends while living with the native Americans. He matured into a handsome, healthy, rugged young man. At 22, John had not spoken to another white man since deserting the English *Man-O-War* eight years before and could share only a few English words with the elders who transacted business with the Colonists. Emerging from his self-ordained confinement, he prayed that no one from his past would recognize him and that he would be accepted by the Colonists. It was time to leave the Narragansetts.

The nearest white man was a blacksmith whose shop was located at the foot of Woonsocket Hill on Blackstone River. The blacksmith was respected by the Indians. Through him they traded their furs for English Pots, colorful cloth, and other items. The blacksmith was highly regarded for his iron arrowheads, which were more accurate and which could travel farther than conventional stone arrowheads. The Narragansett elders recommended that Sleeping Turtle visit the blacksmith and ask for his help.

By late summer, John had the courage to confide in the blacksmith. Listening to John's misadventures of forced duty on the *Man-O-War*, his escape, and years of living with the Indians, the blacksmith realized that John was totally ignorant of colonial life in America. He suggested that John follow the river south to the west shore of Narragansett Bay where Roger Williams had established Providence Plantation in 1636. Williams, a minister, was banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony (Native Americans called it "Blue Bay Colony") and had taken his followers south where he bought thousands of acres from two Narragansett Chiefs. Roger Williams advocated religious and political freedom and love of personal liberty. The people of Providence Plantation, later known as Rhode Island, had created a peaceful, hard

working colony, able to get along with all five tribes of nearby Indians totaling about 4,000 people.

The blacksmith urged John to find his friend, Samuel Gorton*, who lived in Warwick, a small village below Providence.

*This Samuel Gorton and his father, Samuel, along with John Greene came from England to Providence Plantation in 1643. Both the Gorton and Greene families have intermarried over the years with our OLIN Family.

Chapter 9

Accepted by the Colonists of Rhode Island

Samuel Gorton, Sr. was one of the original founders of Rhode Island in association with Roger Williams and his followers. He died in 1677, one year before our John Olin jumped ship at Boston. Samuel Gorton was a man of means, well educated, and known for his religious tolerance. He found himself serving the public in several capacities, one of which was clerk of records. Most of his early records were written in a mixture of English and "Gorton Shorthand." Shorthand originated in England about 1620 and became known as "Shelton's Tachy-graphy." Gorton dabbled in the use of shorthand and the early records show his own version.

Gorton was a man of honor who raised his family to respect others at all times, to participate in colonial, political endeavors, and to challenge the British government. One of the King's confidants claimed that Samuel Gorton acted as though he was independent of the King's Crown; poor, but yet so proud. His firm convictions and principles were instilled in his children, particularly, Samuel, Jr.

It was at the house that Samuel Gorton, Jr. had built in 1685 at Apponaug Village, Town of Warwick, that our John Olin made his appearance. (This house later became an historic landmark.) As the Gorton family increased, additional rooms were added, keeping within the original design.

John was impressed by the large houses, shops and clean gardens as he walked along the streets. He remembered the little, two-room house where he was reared back in England. Feeling insecure and unacceptable to all of the strangers on the street, it was hard for him just to ask directions to Gorton's house. It took even more courage to raise the knocker and let it fall against the door.

The woman who opened the door showed no shock at John's appearance; long hair, brown skin, bare feet and wearing only deerskin breeches of sorts. She merely directed him to the rear of the house where he would be fed while waiting for Mr. Gorton to arrive. John

wondered how the woman knew that he was hungry, thankful for the generous slab of mutton and chunk of corn bread. He later learned that it was an accepted practice of the times for the colonists to feed a hungry Indian if they knocked on the door and carried no weapons. John had been mistaken for a friendly American native.

Samuel Gorton, Jr. was not sure if John was a red or white man until John related his story of being kidnapped, pressed into service on a *Man-O-War*, his escape from the ship and the years of living with the Narragansett tribe. John said he wanted to return to the white man's civilization, but was afraid of the British penalty for his escape. Gorton believed him, thankful that nothing like this had ever happened to his own family.

Samuel Gorton was a farmer who raised sheep and specialized in the propagation of orchards for apples, pears, cherry, plums, and peaches. He owned several hundred acres in the old township of Cowesett, adjacent to the northern border of Greenwich. Samuel explained that John's experience as a shaver in the shipyard was worthless because there was little or no activity in construction due to a shortage of money. Very little money was in circulation and much of that was counterfeit. Since John had no clothes, no money, no education, and limited experience, he appealed to Gorton's charitable reputation for help. He was alone, an outcast who wanted to be a part of something, and willing to work at anything. John's sincere plea registered deeply with Gorton and a deal was struck which involved a contract for a ten-year period, such as this:

TYPICAL INDENTURE CONTRACT

This Indenture made this 20th day of September AD 1686, Witnesseth, by I, John Olin, of ye Towne of Warwick, in ye Coloney of Providence Plantations, of ye one partie, doe bind my Selfe, Aprentice, unto Mr: Samuel Gorton, Jr. Inhabitant of Apponaug: in Warwick: in yet aforesaid Coloney, during ye Terem of ten yeares, from ye ? of Wales past: I say I doe bind by Selfe during ye terem of ten yeares, as aforesaid, unto Mr. Samuel Gorton, Jr., his heires, executors, Administrators to doe him faythful service: beinge att his lawfull commands: keeping his secrets: and doe promise according to my best endeavor: not to neglect any thinge, yt I ought to doe, for my said Master's best advantage as becometh a Servant. In consideration whare

of I ye said Samuel Gorton, Jr., doe on ye other partie, Covenant to and with ye aforesaid John Olin, to keep him with Convenyent meate, drinke, apparrell and Lodgeinge, duringe ye terem of ten yeares as above said and I doe Ingaige to teach or cause him to be taught ye trade mistery and Occupation of Orchard Cultrist to ye utmost of my Endeavor, and to carrie myselfe towardes him in all points, as a master ought to doe to his Servant, and I doe further promise, at ye end of ten yeares, as above said, to set him free, giveinge of him, one new suit of clothes besides his other apparrell and to ye true performance heereof I bind heires, Executors, and Administrators.

Signed by; Samuel Gorton, Jr.
/LS/ John Olin marke

Both men were pleased and satisfied with their arrangement. Samuel found John eager to learn, applying himself diligently with dedication, and requiring very little supervision. Over the years, John learned the negative and positive effects of weather, nature's nibblers, and propagation of fruit-bearing trees. John found some thornless plums and pear trees growing wild in the forest and convinced Samuel to graft some of these wild stock into his trees. After a few years, Samuel had strains of thornless plums and pears increasing his prestige among his peers.

Between seasons in the orchard, pruning, planting, scything and harvesting, John performed other tasks for Gorton. In the early spring, after the trees were pruned, he helped make maple sugar. The process was similar to that of the Narragansetts except for the boiling utensils. The colonists used huge iron kettles or large flat tin pans for the evaporation process resulting in syrup or sugar. Another oddity that was radically different from the Indians was that the Colonists "put away" or stored most of their maple sugar, conserving the supply until the next season. To the Indians, there was no tomorrow when the sugar could be used today. They put it in stews, put it on roasting meats, added it to melted bear's fat, pounded it into their meal, and treated visiting strangers with large cakes of sugar.

Another extra duty performed by John was the preparation of corn planting ground. The Colonists thought it was strenuous, tedious work to till, level, and mark the soil for uniform rows with tools pulled by

teams of oxen. This method proved to be easy for John because he was working in large fields cleared of trees, stumps and rocks. The Narragansetts moved their home site often which required them to cut down trees and burn out the roots, or hoe around them with their crude implements. The Indian women did the actual planting with hills of corn and beans three feet apart. Pumpkins, squash and sunflowers were planted in between.

Strict laws were on the books in early years of Warwick. For example; #17 "That no man is to turne swine into the woods between planting time and harvest without sufitient keepers to prevent dangers of Indeans and Inglish Corne."

#14 "That no man in the Towne is to sell strong lickers or sack to the Indeans for to drink in there houses and if it be proved he that so breaks this order shall pay to the Treserie five shilling for each offend."

The supply of wearing apparel of good quality in the area was insufficient; home grown wool, was too oily and imported, cleaned wool was too costly. A Mr. Micarter was welcomed into the Warwick community as a skilled "fuller" of wool. The Town fathers provided him with a one-acre island in the Kekamewit Brooke for his fulling mill and cloth drying yard. A fulling mill required water power, a building to grind sand and lime and to hold soak and rinse vats. The finely ground powder was used to remove grease and oil from woolen cloth making a top quality garment cloth available. Gorton loaned our John Olin to help Mr. Micarter erect his building and install the wooden tanks and equipment.

In 1703, John was loaned out again to Randall Holden, who served on a special committee to settle the boundary dispute between the Colonies of CT and RI. At the same time, the English government requested a complete mapping of Rhode Island. John was away from Warwick four months during the summer. He cut brush, drove stakes, held the pole, stretched the chain, and whatever else the surveyor requested.

John Olin's stay with the Gorton family was satisfactory, he reckoned. He had his own little bed chamber behind the kitchen next to the pantry, ate most of his meals with the family at the long table in the dining room, had sufficient clothing always in good repair, and the trust of his master. Yet, he yearned for the day when he would be a free man of the colonies. He wanted to become a family man.

Although he was free to hunt, fish, and roam the forests in his leisure time. He made only one visit back to the Narragansett who welcomed him again as their "Sleeping Turtle." He was bound by a contract that restricted his association with society. The number one requirement to become a free man was membership in any church whose minister would accept you.

The Six Principles Baptist Church had just established a new meeting house. Samuel Gorton, Jr. did not believe wholly in the six principles and had elected to follow in his father's footsteps and joined the Society of Friends or Quakers. When John told Samuel he wanted to join a church, Gorton naturally invited him to attend his church. John, remembering his childhood days when his family attended a Baptist church in England, said he would prefer the Baptists. Gorton accepted John's decision since, after all, Rhode Island was founded on the idea of religious freedom.

A sense of reverence humbled John as he made his first appearance at the two-story unpainted Baptist Church on "Meeting House Hill". Inside, there were a row of square pews on the west side, a double row of plain seats in the center occupied by members, and a row of short seats along the east side where the people who were not members were expected to sit. The square pews belonged to the members and their descendants who had contributed the most to the erection of the new church. John was instructed to sit on the east side until he was accepted into the church. When John later married and had descendants of his own, the first few generations stayed with the Baptist tradition in one form or another.

The contract between Samuel Gorton, Jr. and John Olin did not truly represent the circumstances of their relationship. John was neither an indentured servant nor an apprentice, at least in the eyes of Gorton. Two years before the agreed end of the contract, Gorton released John complementing him on his loyalty, honesty, ability, and especially his positive attitude in performing any task asked of him. He gave John a good bay mare and a purse containing 100 pounds. Mrs. Gorton presented him with an additional set of clothes and boots, and wished him success in whatever he decided to do.

John was surprised and not entirely prepared for his freedom. He was glad that he had the foresight to join a church. He attended the next village council meeting and asked to be considered a freeman.

There were no objections. Freeman John Olin could now vote on local school and town issues, but more importantly, he could walk the streets with his head held high.

During the first years of 1700, Rhode Island was experiencing a period of prosperity; large plantations were being developed; yields of corn, flax, rye and wheat were high; numbers and the value of livestock were increasing; butter and cheese became barter items; a new breed of saddle horse called the Narragansett Pacer emerged; and, the coastal area merchants, whaling fleet and shipyards were flourishing. Plantation owners and influential merchants invested in the rum and slave trade with the West Indies, circumventing British tariffs.

John was now 40 years old, no longer a young man, but was determined to make something of his life. His reputation as a diligent and uncomplaining worker was well known. Because he never raised his voice in anger nor argued vehemently over current issues, people sometimes tried to take advantage of him. He badly wanted to try his old skill as a shaver in a shipyard. When he asked for a job in East Greenwich at the Greene family ship yard, the largest builder of sloops sailing American coastal waters, they did not need any additional help but were kind enough to direct him over to the smaller Spencer yard.

Spencers made a small sailboat with only one mast rigged like a sloop or cutter. It was used for off-shore fishing and had a well big enough to hold a day's catch. John was hired as a shaver and responsible for anchoring the pole in the "smack." The small yard produced about eight smacks a year plus a few small row boats. Because of the limited output, John found himself performing all tasks when needed.

It was almost a year later that John first became aware of a neatly dressed woman making a daily appearance to and from the yard's office. John thought she might be close to thirty years old and probably was visiting her husband. The more John saw her, the more he looked forward to seeing her. When he discreetly inquired as to her identity, he learned that she was Miss Susannah, the unmarried daughter of the yard's owner Michael Spencer, delivering a noon lunch to her father.

John was attracted to this regal, confident, unmarried woman with her no-nonsense attitude toward the workers in the yard. Despite his shyness and clumsy, tongue-tied behavior in the presence of women, he made it a point to occupy himself as near as he could to the path that

she took to the office.

One day, they made eye contact. When she stopped on the path directly in front of him for only a second, his heart stopped for what seemed like minutes. She moved on, leaving John frustrated over his inability to say anything. Still, he persisted in staying as near the path as possible, hoping for another encounter. Then, one day she smiled at him. The next day, he smiled at her. A few days later they smiled simultaneously. Finally, John summoned enough courage to ask her if he could call her at her father's house. The resulting courtship led to the marriage of John Olin and Susannah Spencer performed by Justice of the Peace, Thomas Fry, in East Greenwich, 4th day of October, 1708.

Author's Note: Our Susannah Spencer was the daughter of Michael and Rebecca (Sweetman) Spencer, not the daughter of John Spencer nor the Susannah Spencer who married Richard Briggs, 23 December 1700 in East Greenwich. Thanks to research performed by Karen Spencer in 1981, we have what is believed to be our correct Spencer lineage from Susannah's father, Michael Spencer back to the year AD 912 which includes 26 generations. If we add the 12 generations forward from Michael Spencer we have a total of 38 generations within the Spencer family. This covers over 1,000 years, averaging 30 years for each generation.

At the time of the Olin and Spencer marriage, East Greenwich had a population of 940. It so happened that three generations of Thomas Frys served the public during the later 17th century and early 18th century. Prior to the Revolutionary War, the Fry family, among others, brought slaves into Rhode Island from the African coast. However, Rhode Island became the first colony before Statehood in America to abolish the importation of slaves.

The Rhode Island Proprietor's meeting of 6 June 1700 included a drawing of names of surviving veterans from the war known as King Phillip's War. The first name drawn was Michael Spencer, the first of fifty men to receive 100 acres form a 5,000-acre grant.

Charles Macarty, died 1682, having a distinction of being the first to file a will in East Greenwich. He listed over a dozen bequests, one of which pertained to Michael Spencer. Quote "My olde mere I give unto Samuel Bennet, and the foule or my youngest mere I give unto Mychell Spenser."

Susannah's cousin, Thomas Spencer, became the first practicing physician in East Greenwich. He helped John and Susannah through the early years of family illnesses and diseases.

The first license issued to sell liquor in East Greenwich was to John Wood and Michael Spencer, allowing them "liberty to have a common ale house or tippling house." The tavern of early days was a combination social club, meeting hall, and inn. Friends and neighbors gathered there on various occasions and usually consulted the tavern keeper on land deals, business ventures and possible or impending marriages.

Michael Spencer died in 1724. In his will dated 23 March 1723 he mentioned his daughter, Susannah Olin and his grandson Joseph Olin, son of John and Susannah Olin.

Meanwhile, back at Spencer boatyard, business slowed, required John to find other work at times in order to support his growing family. He worked a few months on a three and half mile turnpike that ran west from Cranston to Coventry. He cut brush and trees, dug and pulled stumps, gathered and crushed stones, and laid planks across a short bog of quicksand. He also worked on the courtesy road between East and West Greenwich.

The William Greene family purchased the Samuel Gorton house in 1718. It needed a new well. Upon the advice of the Gorton family, William Greene asked John Olin to dig and wall up the well and to build an open house over the well. Fifteen years had passed since John left the Gorton home. The house still looked the same except for another addition, this time on the west side. John was surprised to see the seven-foot diameter "button wood" tree still standing, overseeing the mansion and yard.

Both William Greene, Sr. and Jr. served as Governor of Rhode Island during the years 1740-1758 and 1778-1786, respectively. The West room of the home, now called a mansion, became the Governor's council room. Frequent consultations on important national affairs included French Generals, Lafayette and Rochambeau and Continental Generals, Nathaniel Greene and John Sullivan. Sullivan was ordered by his Commander-in-Chief, General George Washington, in 1779 to form an army to destroy the villages and livelihood of the Indians who were boldly harassing the settlers of the New York and Pennsylvania frontiers. Sullivan took roughly 8,000 men on his infamous trip

through the Susquehanna River watershed and the Finger Lakes country during the middle of the Revolutionary War and crippled any future Indian harassments.

Notable civilians who visited the Greene mansion included Noah Webster, Henry Clay, John Quincy Adams, and William Bingham of Philadelphia (Binghamton, Broome County, New York was named in his honor). Benjamin Franklin was an intimate friend of the Greene family, corresponding from France and on occasion returning to the upper west room for a lengthy visit.

John and Susannah were justifiably concerned about starting a family. John was 44 years old and Susannah was 28 years old, on the older side of child-bearing age. They depended on Dr. Thomas Spencer, probably more than others in the neighborhood. The first two children, Joseph, born 28 August 1710 and John, born 8 March 1712 were roughly two years apart, a normal occurrence of the times. But seven years elapsed before the births of two children were recorded in 1719 and 1721, again two years apart. It seems possible that other children could have been born during the seven-years fallow period. Perhaps there were problems during Susannah's pregnancy or in delivery or with fatal childhood illnesses or accidents. The great snow of 1717, when four storms within ten days left five feet of snow on the ground could have contributed to a non-survival situation.

Shoes were a problem for everyone. Shoemakers in the late 1600's and early 1700's were scarce and in high demand. They traveled from house to house carrying the tools of their trade with them. Each household was expected to have an assortment of leather and fine rope on hand for the shoemaker's visit. He would be invited to take meals with the family and stay the night wherever he happened to be. It was always an exciting event when news came that a shoemaker was beginning to work his way through a community. When he left, Susannah and her children would go barefooted around the house to save wear on their shoes.

Occasionally the town councilmen found it necessary to punish an individual for committing an act contrary to the laws and moral principles of the town. Each town had a wooden imprisonment stock and a whipping post kept in good repair on the commons. John had witnessed the whipping of two men and was opposed to that form of punishment, although he realized that some form of punishment was

needed. During the middle of October 1725, right after he had purchased a small farm in North Kingston and moved his family to it, he found it necessary to return to East Greenwich. He joined a large crowd on the commons, curious as to what was causing such excitement. He saw a woman, stripped naked down to her waist, tied to the whipping post. It seems she was unable to pay a fine within an allotted hour and had to suffer the indignities of a public whipping. When the whipping began, the crowd cheered. John and a few others backed away from the infectious cheering that could not hide the agonizing screams of the tortured woman. He was disgusted with his peers and sympathetic with the woman. How could anyone find enjoyment in such a brutal, degrading performance. John could never completely block that scene from his mind, particularly the sight of the red, raw welts bursting from the woman's back.

Aron and Mary Davis sold John the 22-1/2 acre farm for 50 pounds on 6 October 1725 in North Kingston. It was John and Susannah's first and only permanent home. East Greenwich had become a rowdy seaport with a dozen or more taverns. They wished to raise their children in a quieter environment. The death of Susannah's father the year before freed her from any further obligations in East Greenwich. When the Olin family moved to North Kingston, their children's ages ranged from Joseph, 15 to Eleanor, 4. John Olin, freeman, now became John Olin, yeoman (a man who farms his own land). He capitalized on the experience gained at Gortons by starting an orchard of his own.

In preparation of his orchard, John made a few trips to Frenchtown, the abandoned Huguenot settlement south of East Greenwich. The French, mostly farmers, had brought small fruit trees, mulberry bushes and cuttings of grape vines with them. Some of the orchards were bearing fruit of better quality than local orchards started years before. The orchards, known as "French Orchards" was all that survived the 1700 Huguenot exodus from East Greenwich to the Canadian French. Although the people of East Greenwich provided the French an area to live, they would not accept them into their society. The "French Orchard" provided John with free root stock and cuttings for his own orchard.

John kept busy supporting his family by working on highways, erecting buildings, and odd jobs. One of the more challenging and exciting jobs occurred when he joined a working crew which traveled

to Newport, the largest Island in Narragansett Bay. There they dismantled the old Trinity Church, loaded it on a raft, and moved it up the bay to East Greenwich. The building was rebuilt on a site midway between Apponaug and East Greenwich, and for the next 30 years was known as the Episcopal Meeting House.

The Olin Orchard was producing up to expectations during the 1730s. Their three sons were married and starting families of their own. Only Eleanor, their daughter, remained at home to keep her parents company and help with the chores. John was in his 70s and losing his strength and ambition. Eleanor had met a young fellow, Benjamin Carpenter, about her age whom she wanted to marry. She was torn between her love and responsibility towards her parents and this up and coming carpenter son of Oliver Carpenter, which meant leaving her elderly parents.

During the 1740 Thanksgiving gathering of the Olin family, it was mutually decided that Eleanor and Benjamin should marry. Her brothers promised to make no claims against their father's estate upon his death. John and Susannah agreed to sell their farm to Benjamin Carpenter, who promised to marry Eleanor. Both Eleanor and Benjamin promised to share the home with her parents until they died. Everyone was happy with this arrangement.

Land Evidence Vol. 9A, p.182-183 Deed from John Oldin/Olden [sic], yeoman, and Susannah his wife, of North Kingston, to Benjamim Carpenter, house carpenter, of East Greenwich, of 22 1/2 acres in North Kingston, for 100 pounds, dated 26 January 1741.

On 13 August 1741, Eleanor Olin, age 20, was married to Benjamin Carpenter,. He moved into the house with Eleanor and both provided her parents with comfortable and caring attention for the rest of their lives.

Probate Records Vol. 8, p.6-7: Inventory of "all and Singular the Goods and Credits of John Olin Late of North Kingstown Deceased" taken by William Tanner and James Raynolds, presented to the Town Council 1[-] July 1742, recorded 22 July 1742, listing the date of death as 28 March 1742.

No record has been found of Susannah (Spencer) Olin's death. However, 1745 appears to be reasonable as suggested by family events.

Author's Note: This accounting of the remarkable life of our first Olin in America may not be true in it's entirety. Nevertheless, the facts and events of his participation at that time have been gleaned from: Family traditions — reliable unless proven otherwise.
Family documents — reliable unless proven otherwise.
Recorded Vital Statistics — marriages, births, deaths, deeds, wills, etc.
Recorded History — dates, events, life.

John Olin was not destined to rise above others. He was a survivor, living as a man should. He worked hard, minded his own business, developed his own principles, and raised a family of four who have shared with their descendants the same survival instincts and principles as their father.

Yes, there is fiction wrapped around the facts. But is it truly fictitious? It may have happened! At least I believe most of it did.

Author's Note: Rhode Island records were made difficult to the researcher by the early divisions of Providence, Kingston, and Warwich into townships which in turn were split into additional townships. The same record often appears in more than one township.

PART II — John OLIN'S Arrival in America

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PART III

John OLIN and Susannah Spencer Family in Rhode Island

"The life given us by nature is short.
But the memory of a well spent life is eternal."
—Cicero

Chapter 10

Joseph Olin, First Son and Progenitor Named in Title

When John Olin stepped outside his house and announced to the world that he and Susannah had an addition to their family, little did he realize the significance of what he said. It was their first child, a boy named Joseph, born 29 August 1710. The happy mother and father may not have known that little Joseph's name had a double common meaning; "May God add" and "Addition." Joseph is the progenitor of my branch of the original OLIN family in America.

Susannah prepared baby clothes well in advance of the expected birth. It made no difference to the parents whether it would be a boy or a girl; baby clothes were kept simple. The shirt of linen was short sleeved with tiny rows of hem stitching and drawn work for decorations. The gown was a shapeless linen sack with embroidered decorations. She made a few small sizes of white linen caps and mittens which Joseph wore during his first winter and on colder days. Susannah even followed her family's tradition of placing a piece of scarlet material over the baby's head to ward off dangers.

John and Susannah relied on their own mature judgment in the rearing of their children although neither one possessed any actual experience. They attended and practiced within the Baptist beliefs. John, in particular, wanted to raise and teach his own children until they

were of age without the need to "apprentice" them out to gain an education and a trade. Thinking back on his own experiences and loneliness, he did not want to separate his family, but he did want his children to make their own choice of occupation. However, when Joseph and his brother, John, were of school age, John and Susannah realized that they were not qualified to teach simple reading and writing.

East Greenwich, during the early 1700's was large enough to support a school for boys. In the earlier years, a teacher taught in private homes or a designated building like a church. Children who were unable to attend a school or classes taught by a semi-professional teacher relied upon what could be learned at home. In the interest of education in the Rhode Island community it was decreed that a teacher be appointed when householders numbered 50 and a full grammar school be organized and built when the householders reached 100. Usually the ministers in early Rhode Island were appointed as teachers. They taught only boys. However, in 1640 at Newport the first "Dame School" was founded where women taught both boys and girls from poorer families.

All four of John and Susannah's children received at least enough schooling to read and write. Joseph and his siblings had free time to play besides requirements for church, school and home chores. Their playmates were children of Vaughns, Nichols, Spencers, Griffins and other families in the East Greenwich neighborhood. Some of the more popular games includes leapfrog, London Bridge, hide and seek prisoners base, wrestling, and foot races. In the classroom, excitement centered around the spelling bees, penmanship and who was responsible to keep the water bucket filled and maintain the fire in the fireplace when one was needed.

John's decision to keep the boys at home allowed him to accept work some distance from home even when it was necessary to stay over nights for a few days at a time. The boys were busy chopping, splitting, and carrying wood for their mother's fireplace and ovens, cleaning out the ashes, keeping the vegetable garden free from weeds and trying to make some benches for their mother.

One chore was solely their mother's, no matter how hard they pleaded. Susannah took complete control of the family's fowl collection that included ducks and geese as well as chickens. She alone fed and

watered them and collected the eggs. In the spring, she selected hens and eggs for a hatch of replacement chicks. Twice a year, she did allow the boys to clean out the coops. She was affectionally referred to in her neighborhood as the "Olin Hen-huzzy."

When inclement weather prevailed, Susannah covered herself with one of John's old capes. When the ground was muddy or held several inches of snow, she wore "patens'"on her feet. "Patens" were made from wood and iron that had straps to hold them on regular shoes or slippers. Below the wooden soles a flat iron ring extended to the ground. Some patens varied in height from one to six inches, to keeping a lady's foot high and dry but it was very cumbersome for walking.

No one could predict the arrival of snow storms in the New England colonies. The colonists did, however, rely on this little jingle once the snow started falling.

Snow like meal
Brings a great deal,
Snow like cotton
Will soon be forgotten.

The Olin's two cows, one or the other having a calf by her side,became the responsibility of Joseph. He did the milking night and morning and let the cows loose in the summer to graze anywhere that was not fenced off. The cows wandered around the town commons or at the edges of the woods in company with several others until the dusk when their need to be milked drew them back to their respective sheds.

Joseph took care of the pigs and hogs when they grew larger. John tried to keep four to six around most of the time. In the autumn, the hogs were turned over to a "swineherd" who took them to the woods to feed on fallen acorns and beech nuts to fatten them up for bacon and lard.

As Joseph grew older, he suspected that he possessed a natural ability to understand and get along with hogs because he could anticipate their abrupt movements. The neighbors appreciated and respected his assistance when it was time for ear marking in the spring or butchering in the fall. Hogs had a reputation for being dumb and destructive, particularly if allowed to roam in a neighborhood. A typical town ordinance read:

"Ordered that hoges shall goe one ye comon and if any mans hoges tresspes or doe any damage, ye owners of ye hoges shall pay ye damage or lost thare hoges, provided, yt thare fence be suffistient, by ye Surveors." [sic]

Homeowners protected their yards or gardens from marauders by fences of wooden rails or pickets or sometimes of stone. When hogs were allowed to run at random, the hogs would intermix, thereby losing their identity. A system of identification was enforced by the town council with each owner assigned special markings that were cut into a hog's ear. In 1712 a typical town ear marking approval was granted to:

"William Remington, the eare marke of his cattell and other creatures is a fore gad in the left eare and a half penny over and under the right eare."

Ear marking took place in the spring when the pigs were weaned and about six weeks old. Men often found themselves chasing a hog around and around never quite catching it. Joseph had developed his own method for catching a hog. He took a reed basket and held it over the hog's snout and head, to force the hog to walk backwards, which it did not like to do, until it was backed into a corner where someone would grab it or tie a rope on a leg.

In 1734, John and Susanna were rewarded with the news that Joseph was acknowledged a citizen of Rhode Island. The proceedings of the General Assembly held for a Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations at Newport on the 30th day of April, 1734, voted that Joseph Olden (Olin) of North Kingston be admitted freeman of this colony. Joseph was 24 years old. Four years later, his brother John, became a freeman: a man who has political and civil liberty.

Joseph Olden (Olin) was two years older than John, yet John was the first to marry. He married Susanna Pierce, daughter of Jeremiah and Abigail (Long) Pierce/Peirce on December 8th, 1734, in East Greenwich three and a half years before he became a freeman. It was a festive occasion, the first wedding in the Olin family.

Because the Olin family had moved to North Kingston, they traveled to the Pierce home in East Greenwich for the wedding. Joseph contributed to the festive table by bringing two bushels of fresh oysters from his work with the local fishermen in their off-shore fleets. He not only enjoyed the work, he preferred the openness of the waters to the

populated land.

Six months later, it was Joseph's turn to marry. He had been courting, among others, Mary Aylesworth of East Greenwich for two years and decided she was the one for him, forever. They were married on the 18th day of May, 1735, in the home of her parents, John and Dorcas (Jones) Ayelsworth. Mary's grandfather, Arthur Aylesworth, originally owned over 500 acres in Quidnesset Neck in the Town of North Kingston. The Aylesworth family appeared to be "well off" financially and they were contributors to the local churches, school and government.

After their first three children, daughters Ruahama, Elizabeth and Mary were born and just before the birth of their son, Joseph, Joseph and Mary moved from East Greenwich to Exeter, a village a few miles inland. Joseph hated to give up his fishing companions but Mary convinced him to lease a farm rather than buy one, to prove what he could do with a farm. He was successful with his crops of rye, corn, and flax, some sheep and close to a hundred hogs. He had to admit to Mary that farming contributed more to a family's health, attitude, and savings than fishing as he knew it.

Shortly after his move to Exeter, his brothers John and Henry, relocated their families inland towards West Greenwich because more and more families were moving inland due to increasing population, the Colonial Government split the Town of East Greenwich into two towns, adding West Greenwich in 1741.

Joseph's sister, Eleanor, married Benjamin Carpenter, son of Oliver Carpenter, in August, 1741. Carpenter had purchased the Olin orchard farm in North Kingston and moved in with his bride, Eleanor, and his in-laws. John Olin[1] died in 1742.

By 1750 final boundaries and names were in place in the Colony of Rhode Island.

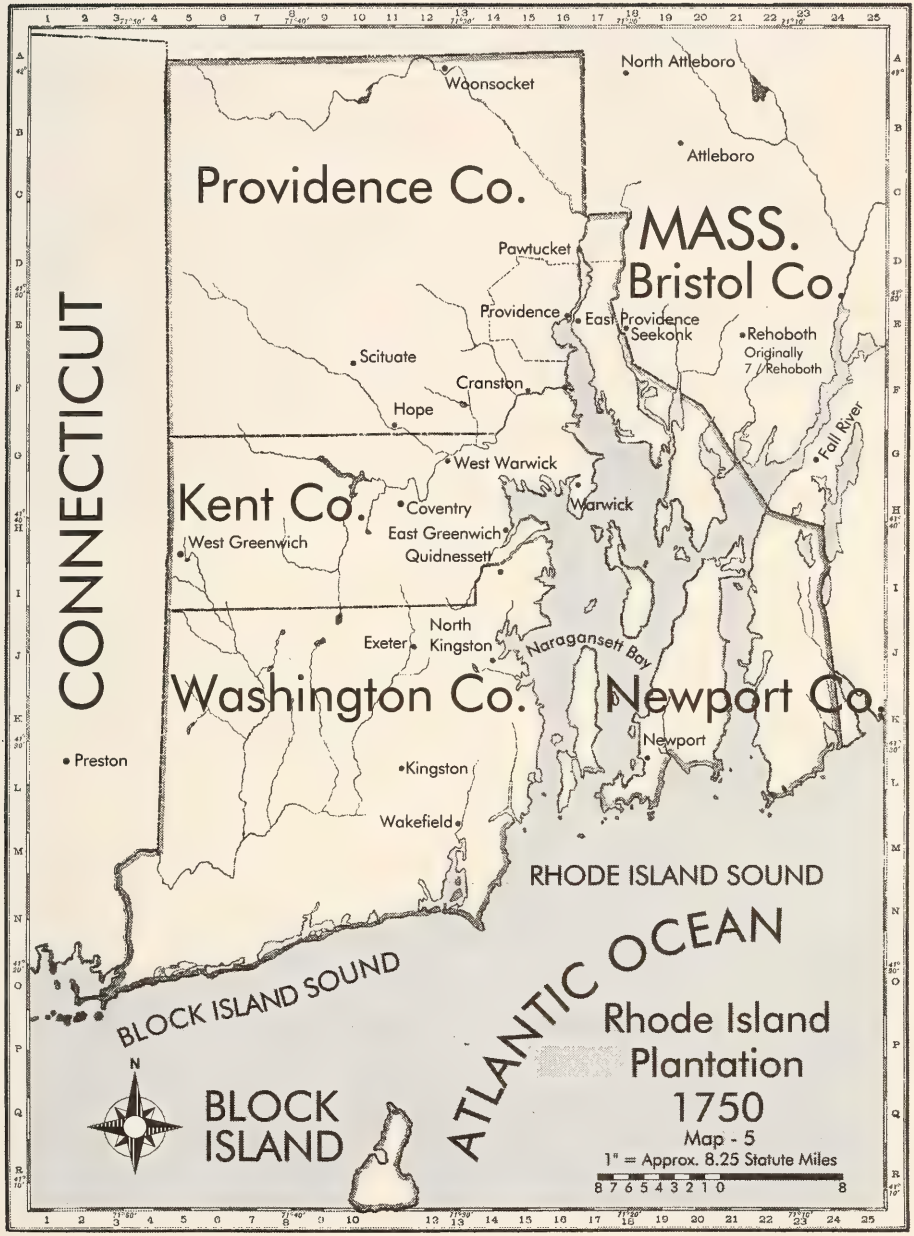
Author's Note: Considerable confusion exists within the original and interpreted records of Rhode Island. Some towns were associated with more than one county. Vital records often appear for the same person in more than one town or county. Some of these do not agree. Some records were seized by the British during the Revolutionary War and most were never recovered. Other records were burned in a fire at North Warwick.

Joseph Olin, freeman, married with a family, a successful farmer, respected by the community, was elected a Councilman for the Town of Exeter in 1748-49. He served as a juror on several occasions.

The first evidence of Joseph and Mary's purchase of a farm appears in Exeter, Rhode Island, Land Evidence, Vol. 6, old date, 1751-1758, pages 292 and 293 where Joseph Olin of Exeter, yeoman, and Mary Olin, his wife, paid 1,200 pounds to John Thomas of Tiverton, yeoman, for 38 acres with a dwelling house, plus three small lots of 2-3/4 acres each along a highway. This transaction was signed by both Joseph and Mary, dated 12 October 1752.

On February 9, 1753, Joseph Olin signed as a witness to a land transaction between Joshua Gardner of Exeter, and Robert Raynolds, of Exeter. Mary proved her social responsibility by signing her name as a witness to Jeremiah Sweet's will, dated 30 of July 1756, in Exeter. Many of the names appearing in the Exeter records are the same family names of neighbors of Olins in East Greenwich and North Kingston. Many families were moving inland, not just the Olins.

Pages 399 and 400 of Vol. 6 also record that Joseph Olin of Exeter, yeoman, and Mary Olin, the wife of said Olin, paid 810 pounds to Samuel Sleight, Jr. of Exeter, yeoman, for 69-1/2 acres with a house and all buildings on a highway. This contract was signed by both Joseph and Mary on 22 March 1756. Joseph had been able to purchase the Thomas and Sleight farms without going into debt. Although he was not happy working the farms, Mary refused to listen to his pleas of returning to the fishing grounds. On one of his Saturday night visits to a local tavern, he heard that the granite quarries north around Scituate paid high wages and were looking for a couple of hard working men. Joseph made a trip to the quarry in Chepachet and was assured of a job the next spring. He tried to convince Mary to move to Scituate and let him try his luck at the quarry. Mary still refused to listen. So Joseph finally used her own words with which she had convinced him to move away from East Greenwich to Exeter twenty years earlier. He reminded her that he had tried farming and had made a success of it although his heart was not in it. Mary finally relented. They made their move to Scituate in 1758, taking the six youngest children with them. Of the four older children, daughters, Ruahama and Elizabeth, were married, daughter Mary was working as a servant in East Greenwich and son Joseph was still serving his apprenticeship as a rope


Providence Co.
MASS.
Bristol Co.
CONNECTICUT
Kent Co.
Washington Co.
Newport Co.
Woonsocket
North Attleboro
Attleboro
Pawtucket
Providence
East Providence
Seekonk
Rehoboth
Originally
7 / Rehoboth
Scituate
Cranston
Hope
Fall River
West Warwick
Warwick
Coventry
East Greenwich
Quidnessett
West Greenwich
North
Kingston
Exeter
Naragansett Bay
Newport
Preston
Kingston
Wakefield
RHODE ISLAND SOUND
ATLANTIC OCEAN
BLOCK ISLAND SOUND
BLOCK
ISLAND
N
Rhode Island
Plantation
1750
Map - 5
1" = Approx. 8.25 Statute Miles
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 8

winder with the Greene family.

It was difficult for Mary to believe her husband could be so happy performing as a laborer in the quarry. Within five weeks after he started, the quarry master promoted him to foreman of the Excavation gang which removed trees, stumps, debris, and soil from above the granite. He was tired at night. They still had a couple of cows,some chickens and several pigs. He charged his sons, Phillip and William, with the responsibility for the home chores.

Unfortunately, an accident at the quarry injured three men and caused Joseph's death. When Joseph Olin died on the 30th of October 1760, in Scituate at age 50, he left no will. The town council appointed Mary administrix of his estate and guardian of her underage children. Joseph's accumulated assets were considered good for the times. After all expenses were paid and the living expenses subtracted before Mary's second marriage, each of the six underage children received about 104 pounds. Mary had been faced with a tremendous challenge, particularly in raising her three youngest daughters, Ruth, Ann, and Sarah who was only four years old.

Joseph and Mary were fortunate to have lived during a prosperous era in the New England Colonies. They had been paid well for their farm products, mostly in sterling silver through merchants dealing directly with the London markets. This undoubtedly accounts for Joseph's modest wealth. A traveler from England wrote home in 1740 that New England was abundant in food and low on money. Some common prices were:

rye - 3s/bu	corn - 3s 6d/bu	flaxseed - 6s 6d/bu
butter - 2 p/1b	goose - 2s	salmon - 1s 15 lb
cider - 6s/bbl	clams - 2s/bu	pork salted - 1 lb/bbl

Mary was fortunate to meet Nathan Bennett of Preston, Conn. Bennett was making several trips a month to the quarry for cut granite to form the foundation wall for a new barn. Mary accepted his proposal upon his promise to honor her decisions and those of the Town council involving her first husband's estate and payments to her children. He was a man of his word who provided the children with a good, clean, healthy, and loving home.

When Mary's father, John Aylesworth died about 1770, his will

mentioned his daughter as Mary Bennett.

Mary's remarriage explains why the Joseph and Mary Olin family appeared to be split: the first four children remained in the Rhode Island area until moving farther inland while the six younger children accompanied their mother, Mary, and their stepfather to his farm in Preston, Connecticut.

George Nye, C. C. Olin, Oran Raber, and William Closson have contributed years of their lives documenting the first 200 years of Olin family history within the branches of John(2) and Henry(2) Olin. Some of their descendants have shown a definite interest in updating smaller branches of the earlier history. One or two have published their account. It is my hope that others will become "obsessed" with the challenge and try to do a share in preserving the Olin family history.

The goal of this book, Volume I, is to document only the Joseph(3) Olin and his descendants. Volume II will document the Phillip(3) Olin and his descendants. Booth books will include information on their siblings.

Chapter 11

Eleanor Olin, the Only Known Daughter,

Benjamin Carpenter's great, great grandfather, William Carpenter, was born in England, 1605, and came to America on the ship *Bevis*. His parents were well-to-do farmers on the outskirts of London and were declared to be energetic as well as wealthy. They shared both time and money with their church and political beliefs. William was admitted a freeman, 1640, shortly after his arrival in the Colonies. He first settled in the Town of Weymouth, Massachusetts and later moved to Rehoboth, Massachusetts, a small village close to the eastern border of Rhode Island. He had been credited with being the progenitor of the Rehoboth Carpenter Family in America. A brief line of his descendants leads to a marriage between Benjamin Carpenter and Eleanor Olin, John Olin's only known daughter.

According to William Carpenter's will, he owned acres of land in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, which he divided between his daughter, Hannah, and his son, Abiah, who received the larger share. The Carpenter land involved three islands near the mouth of the Pawtucket River that flowed from the west into the upper portion of Narragansett Bay. The water around the islands provided a natural fence for protection of unmowed grasses and confinement of cattle and sheep for grazing with a minimum of effort and expense. No other location in Rhode Island could yield a profit in farming, summer and winter. This added to the fortunes of the Carpenter family.

Abiah was a twin brother to Abigail, born in Weymouth, 1643. Upon his father's death, Abiah, at age 16, took up the life of a seaman, later returned to Warwick to marry and raise a family. It was several years before children arrived or survived. Meanwhile, in 1669, Abiah and his wife, Ann Weeks, agreed to their appointment as guardian to Mary Baker, daughter of William and Mary Baker. They agreed to supply her with a year-old cow calf at the end of a year for her services.

In 1665, Abiah Carpenter was named petty juror, later grand juror and still later fined for refusing to serve as a juror. Abiah's oldest son, Oliver, born 1675 in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, became the owner of several real estate parcels in Rhode Island Townships and made his home in North Kingston. He and his wife, Sarah, raised sixteen children, one of whom was also named Oliver. Young Oliver, born about 1695, also had a wife named Sarah. They had 10 children all born in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, between the years 1714 and 1727. Their youngest son was named Oliver. Unfortunately his father died in 1727 about the time of his birth. To complicate matters, grandfather Oliver who had made his will before his son's death,was consequently saddled with settling his own son's estate. The confusion surrounding these three Oliver Carpenters continues to plague researchers today.

However, the middle Oliver, born about 1695, and his wife, Sarah, named their fourth child, a son, Benjamin, born 5 October 1719. He eventually became an accomplished house carpenter. When Benjamin reached his majority, he had accumulated a little money and was thinking of marriage. Benjamin now living in East Greenwich, in 1741, gave his brother, Oliver, who had volunteered to serve as a mariner at the young age of 14, a quit-claim deed to his father's estate for the sum of eight pounds. Benjamin immediately purchased 22-1/2 acres in North Kingston for 100 pounds from John Oldin (Olin), a yeoman, and his wife, Susannah (Spencer), on 26 January 1741.

Apparently, Benjamin was not satisfied with just the 22-1/2 acres that included a good house and out buildings. He either began courting or had already made substantial courting advances to Eleanor Olin, the only known daughter of John and Susannah Olin. Eleanor was a year younger than Benjamin. They were married in East Greenwich, 13 August 1741.

Eleanor was affectionately called "Ellen" by her husband, much to the disappointment of her parents. Some Rhode Island records refer to her as Ellen rather then Eleanor. Her parents were becoming feeble, and needed attention and were very happy to be living under the care and influence of their daughter and son-in-law. John and Susannah were allowed to keep their same bedroom until his death in 1742. Susannah died three years later.

Both Eleanor and her mother enjoyed baking bread in their specially

designed and efficient oven. It was built into the same stone wall as the kitchen fireplace, but instead of a long high-roofed oven it was built with small low round roofs with very small mouth or opening. Two of these were built side by side requiring less fire and retaining heat and baking bread much faster than the conventional ovens of the period. When this type of oven was used, the fire was inside, ashes were removed and the bread loaves were placed directly upon the heated bricks. Sometimes the bottom of the loaf would become burned and required the women to remove the char with a bread rasp. If the bread rasp was made with care, it could also serve as a grater for nutmeg spice, block sugar or salt.

Benjamin served his apprenticeship during his teen years around the villages of Warwick, East Greenwich and North Kingston. He had developed a high degree of skill and was in demand by the more affluent citizens. In June, 1750, the Rhode Island General Assembly incorporated the towns of East Greenwich, West Greenwich, Warwick and Coventry into a new county, named Kent, taken from the County of Providence. A stipulation called for a Court House, equal in size to the one in Providence, to be built in the East Greenwich-Warwich area. Benjamin was asked to be the head carpenter in this undertaking. He knew it would be a challenge, not just for overseeing the construction but actually participating in its design. He stalled his acceptance to the committee until he was sure of being able to complete his three dwellings already under construction before committing to the two-year full-time chore.

As luck would have it, subscription money for the Court House cost fell short causing a delay favorable to Benjamin while a lottery was organized. Lotteries were granted by the Rhode Island Colony from 1750 to 1770 for financing the building of bridges, dams, street paving and repairs, meeting houses, parsonages, school houses, etc. The Kent County Legislator's application for a lottery for the additional financing required to construct their Court House, including a fenced-in jail was approved.

When the Court House and jail were completed, Benjamin made a deal for the left-over material and contracted to build a distillery next door to the jail. The distillery produced New England rum and gin from imported molasses and local rye despite the British embargo prior to the Revolutionary War and this production continued through the War

because molasses and glass supplies continued to be available through rebel blockade runners.

In 1758, Benjamin Carpenter became involved with the second move of the same church that his father-in-law, John Olin helped move. This time the First Episcopal Church, formerly the Trinity Church of Newport, located between Apponaug and East Greenwich was taken apart and placed on a raft with the intention of floating it a couple of miles to Old Warwick where it would be reassembled on it's new lot. It never reached its destination. A severe storm generated high waves that swamped the raft and caused the material to be scattered throughout the Bay.

Later in 1758, Benjamin Carpenter weighed the pros and cons, wondering whether the British were right or wrong in imposing additional taxes upon the colonists. The British had protected them well for over 100 years form both the French and the American Indians but were continually asking for more money and support from the colonists. The notorious French and Indian War of 1754 was in its fourth year. It would be recognized as one of the most important conflicts over French and British possessions in North America. The French, with aid from Indians, were making successful gains at Lake Champlain, Lake Ontario and the Ohio River Valleys.

Benjamin Carpenter, age 40, was not a young man of the times but nevertheless was a man of vision who wanted to insure the future of his family. He voluntarily enlisted in the regiment of soldiers raised by the Rhode Island Plantation under the command of Colonel Henry Babcock. Benjamin fought in the battles of Crown Point and Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain. They took both back from the French. He paid the supreme sacrifice, died in battle, January 28, 1760 without leaving a will.

The Town Council of East Greenwich appointed John Olin, yeoman and Benjamin's brother-in-law, to administer Benjamin's estate for the widow, Eleanor Olin Carpenter, and her six children ranging from age 17 years down to three months. Another brother-in-law, Henry Olin, and Alexander Nichols took the inventory of the Carpenter goods and chattels valued at 410 pounds, 7 shillings and no pence, a sizeable account in those days.

Nine months after her husband's death, Eleanor Olin was subjected to the further grief caused by the death of her brother, Joseph Olin

1760.

Meanwhile, Eleanor was faced with raising her six children. She was fortunate in that her two oldest children were daughters who were helpful in caring for the younger children. Seventeen-year-old Sarah was born two years after Benjamin and Eleanor's marriage. Her sister Jane was born the following year. Jane was very close to her mother and asked to be buried next to her mother in the Weaver Cemetery. In 1768, 24-year-old Jane married Henry Knight of Providence, Rhode Island. Eleanor's son, Elisha, born 1748, married Anne Freeman and moved to Attleboro, Massachusetts where they raised six children. One of their sons, James, born 1771, married Lucy Bliss. They had seven children, all born in Rehoboth, Massachusetts.

Benjamin and Eleanor's fourth child was Mary, born 1751, who married John Hoppin who took her to live in the growing city of Providence, Rhode Island. Their fifth child, another daughter, Elizabeth, born 1756 married Charles Fetterman in 1780. The youngest child of Benjamin and Eleanor was a boy named Benjamin after his father, born in October, 1759, three months before his father's death. Young Benjamin provided support to his mother. He did not marry until he was 31 years old, when he married Mary Burke in 1790. He and Mary raised five children and continued to take care of his mother until her death in 1797. Eleanor Olin Carpenter died at age 76 and was buried in the Weaver Cemetery.

CHART - 1 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

JOHN OLIN
b. ca 1664 d. 28 Mar. 1742
m. 4 Oct. 1708
SUSANNAH SPENCER
b. 6 Apr. 1680 d. ca 1745

Four (4) known children

JOSEPH OLIN
b. 29 Aug. 1710 d. 30 Oct. 1760
m. 18 May, 1735
MARY AYLESWORTH
b. d. aft. 1771

Ten (10) children (OLIN)

RUHAMA	b. 1735
ELIZABETH	1737
MARY	1739
JOSEPH	1740
PHILLIP	1742
WEALTHIAM	1744
WILLIAM	1747
RUTH	1750
ANNE	1752
SARAH	1756

MARY AYLESWORTH OLIN
2 m. ca1761
NATHAN BENNETT
b. d.

JOHN OLIN
b. 8 Mar. 1712 d. 24 Sep. 1797
m. 8 Dec. 1734
SUSANNAH PEIRCE/PIERCE
b. 8 Apr. 1708 d. Feb. 1802

Seven (7) children (OLIN)

PHOEBE	b. 1735
JONATHAN	1737
JOHN	1739
JOHN	1741
GIDEON	1743
GILES	1745
BARBARA	1748

HENRY OLIN
b. 1719 d. 1823
m. ca 1738
(unknown)
b. d.

Five (5) children (OLIN)

JUSTIN	b. 1739
MARY	1742
PELEG	1746
HENRY	1749
CALEB	1753

2 m. 1 Sep. 1754
CHARITY VAUGHN
b. 20 June 1716 d.

Two (2) Children (OLIN)

SUSANNAH

REBECCA

3 m. 17 June 1790
MARTHA REMINGTON
b. 18 Mar. 1724-5 d.
No children

4 m. 13 May 1810
SARAH AYLESWORTH
b. ca 1735 d.

ELEANOR OLIN
b. 1721 d. 1797
m. 13 Aug. 1741
BENJAMIN CARPENTER
b. 5 Oct. 1719 d. 28 Jan. 1760

Six (6) children (CARPENTER)

SARAH	b. 1743
JANE	1744
ELISHA	1748
MARY	1751
ELIZABETH	1756
BENJAMIN	1759

CHART - 2 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

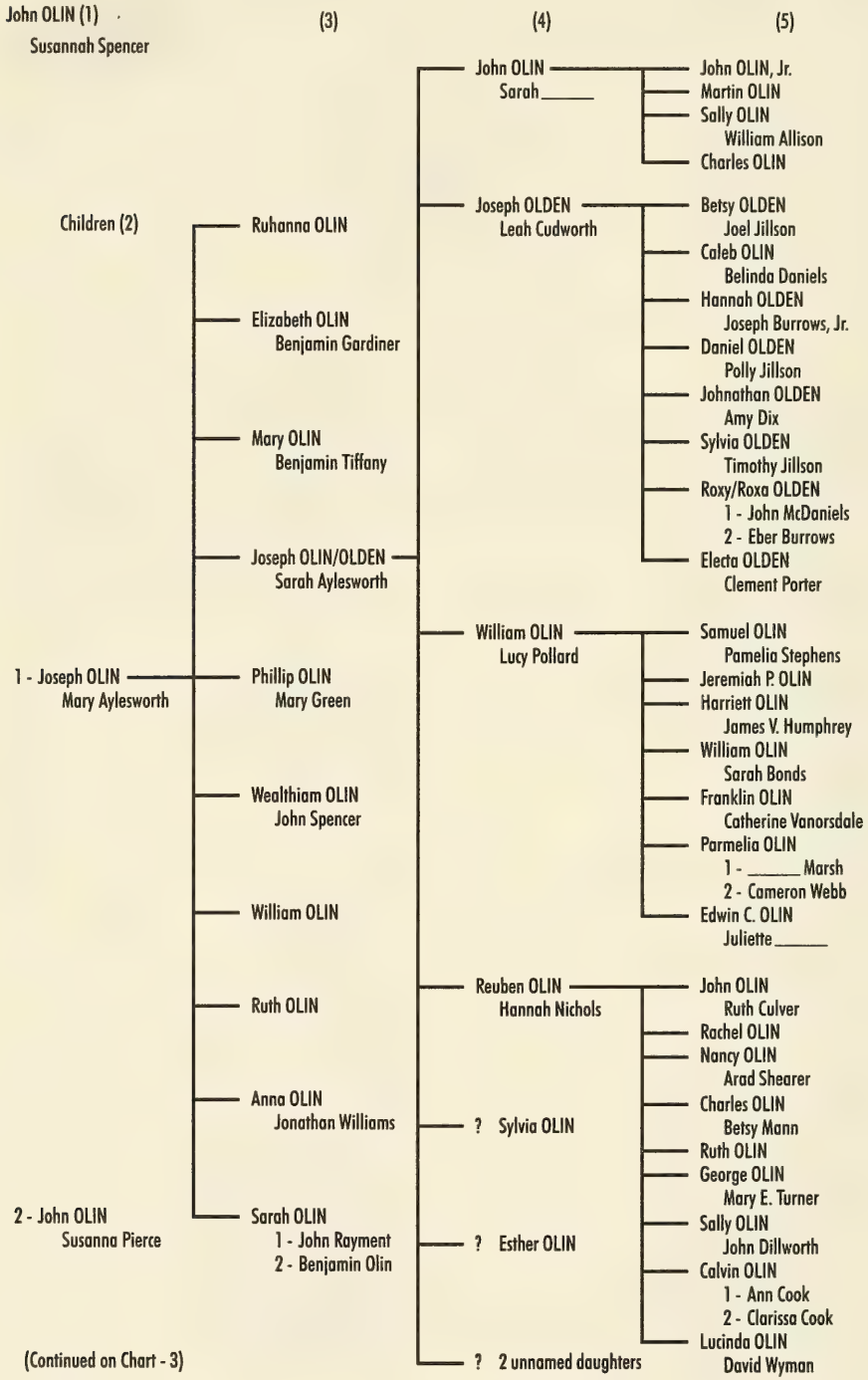
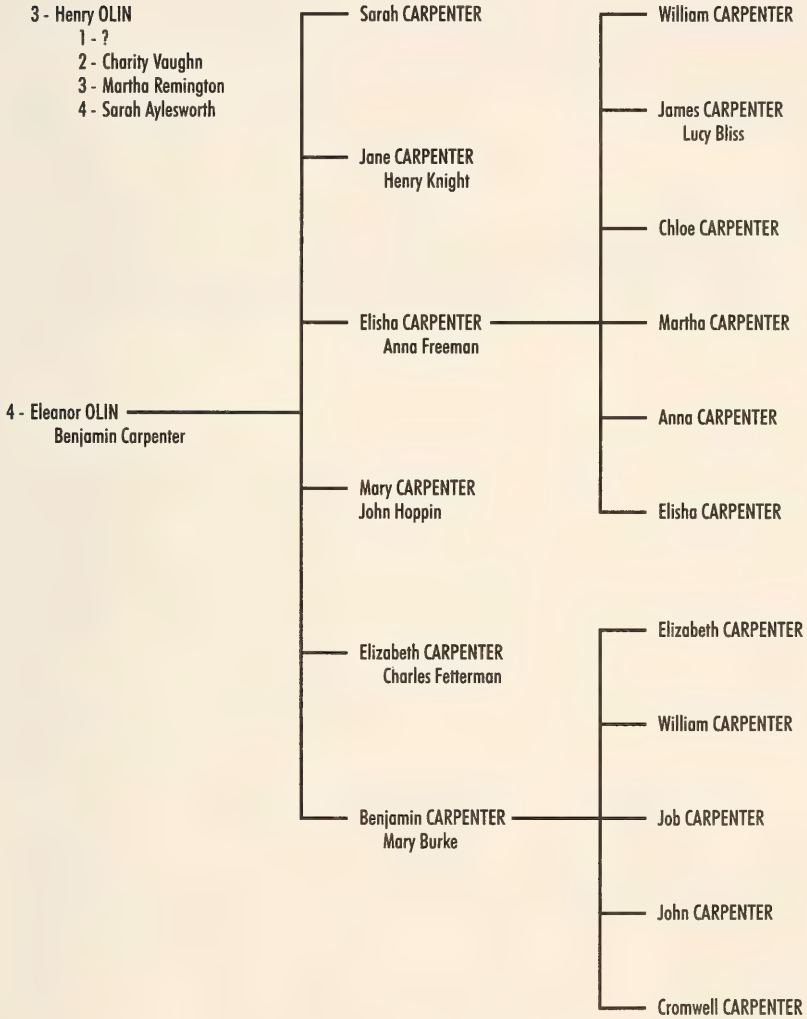


CHART - 3 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

(Continued from Chart - 2)

John OLIN (1)
Susannah Spencer

Children (2) (3) (4)



PART III — John OLIN Susannah Spencer Family in Rhode Island

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PART IV

Joseph Olin Family in Rhode Island

"Sacred dust of our forefathers, slumber in peace!
Your graves be the shrine to which patriots wend,
And swear tireless vigilance never to cease
Till freedom's long struggle with tyranny end!"

—Anonymous

Chapter 12

Daughters: Ruahama, Elizabeth, Mary, Wealthiam, Ruth, Anne and Sarah

Returning to Joseph and Mary (Aylesworth) Olin's family in Rhode Island and Mary's subsequent marriage to Nathan Bennett, we find their children leading accountable lives, whether in Rhode Island or Preston, Connecticut. Nathan Bennett took Mary and the younger children to his farm in Preston, yet provided the means for Mary and the children to visit family in Rhode Island and to cooperate with the officials in settling her late husband's estate. We begin with the story of the daughters in order of their birth.

RUAHAMA OR RUAHANA OLIN

What became of Ruahana, the oldest child and daughter of Joseph and Mary Olin, born 8 March 1735-36 in East Greenwich, Kent County, Rhode Island is still a mystery.

ELIZABETH OLIN

The Olins and Gardners were next door neighbors in the Town of Exeter, Rhode Island. Their children were born and raised here, and shared the same hardships and joys of living, and participated in local activities. Elizabeth Olin was a vibrant young girl with a tom-boyish

outlook having no older brother to adore. By the time she was 16 years old she had gained the attention of her 22-year-old neighbor, Benjamin Gardner (Gardiner), who suddenly found himself recognizing "Liza" as a mature and beautiful young lady. Both families agreed to the marriage, banns were posted without fault, and Joseph and Mary celebrated the wedding of their first child to leave home.

Benjamin's father and brothers had helped him build a small house within walking distance of both parents. It became necessary to add a couple more rooms to the house, because children came rapidly. When the number of children reached eight, Benjamin was forced to add more rooms or move to a larger house. Instead, he moved his family inland to Stephentown, Rensselaer County, New York where five more children were added to the Gardner family. Benjamin died in 1809 and Elizabeth died four years later, both were buried in Stephentown.

Two sons of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Olin) Gardner, Benjamin and Nathaniel Bryan and their next seven generations of descendants are portrayed on a Chart #4. These two sons and the following generations continued with the Gardner migration westward across North America making short stays enroute in New York, Pennsylvania, and Iowa until they reached Utah. Later generations continued on to the west coast much like the Olin family migration.

MARY OLIN

The third child and third daughter of Joseph and Mary Olin was born 10 January 1739 in East Greenwich and was married 6 November 1768 in Warwick, Kent County, Rhode Island to Benjamin Tiffany. She wasn't quite 20 years old when her father died in 1760 in Scituate, Providence County, Rhode Island. She was not living at home when he died nor was she living at home when her mother remarried. She did not share in her father's estate.

Mary may have been supporting herself, possibly as a servant in a well-to-do family, free to quit her employer upon a decent notice. It appears that her position was a respected one that she enjoyed for at least ten years before her marriage to Benjamin Tiffany. Elder John Gorton recorded their marriage in his church record book. The Tiffany surname has been interpreted over the years as Tiffing, but has not been used as such from Gorton's book. Mary was 29 years old when she was married.

WEALTHIAM OLIN

Joseph and Mary Olin's sixth child was a daughter, Wealthiam, born 27 January 1744 in Exeter. She was 15 years old when her father died in 1760. Her mother was appointed administrix of Joseph's estate by the Scituate Town Council. Meanwhile her mother married again, to Nathan Bennett, a yeoman, from Preston, New London County, CT. The new stepfather treated the six underage children as his own.

Although no record of a marriage has been found, it appears that Wealthiam married Isaac Colegrove, probably when she was 16-17 years old, before the 25th day of October, 1763. On that date, Colegrove had signed a receipt for his wife, Wealthiam, acknowledging full payment of 104 pounds, 9 shillings, and 6 pence for her share of her father's estate.

Apparently, Isaac Colegrove died shortly after because five years later Wealthiam married again, this time to John Spencer on 3 January, 1769 at Preston, New London County, CT.

RUTH OLIN

Ruth was the eighth child of Joseph and Mary Olin, born 5 August, 1750 in Exeter County, RI and one of the six children who went to Preston, New London County, CT with their mother and stepfather, Nathan Bennett. She and her older brother were very close and supportive to each other and to their mother, even more so at the time of their father's untimely death. After Joseph's death, the Scituate Town Council appointed Mary, his widow, as Administrix of her husband's estate, at the same time encumbering all assets.

Ruth and William appeared in court with their mother and reinforced her pleas. They appealed to the council that their mother be appointed legal guardian for them and three other siblings which the council did. Mary then appealed to the council to release funds from her late husband, Joseph Olin's estate for child support and rent. The council released 18 pounds for provisions, 138 pounds and 1 shilling for rent and 14 pounds 6 shillings owed by receipts to Solomon . . .

On December 1766 Ruth Olin signed with her mark, the receipt for 104 pounds 6 pence, her share of her father's estate. Her brother, William singed off for his portion in 1769. No record of a marriage for Ruth has been found.

ANNE/ANN OLIN

Joseph and Mary Olin's ninth child, Anne, was born in Exeter, Washington County, RI, 30 July 1752. She was one of the last seven born in Washington County. The first three children were born in Joseph's hometown, East Greenwich, Kent County, RI. After the birth of Anne's youngest sister, Sarah, Joseph and Mary moved to Scituate, Providence County, RI. It was in Scituate that Anne's father died in 1760 when she was only seven years old.

Anne was married in 8 December 1768 at Preston to Jonathan Williams. Her mother had remarried and moved the children to Preston to live on the farm belonging to Yeoman Nathan Bennett, who had agreed to raise her children as his own and to help Mary settle Joseph's estate.

Jonathan Williams signed, with his mark, for his wife's share of her father's estate, 104 pounds 6 pence. William, one of Anne's older brothers, witnessed the signing by Jonathan Williams in February , 1769 and in turn Jonathan Williams witnessed William Olin signing for his share.

SARAH OLIN

Sarah, born 31 March, 1756, the youngest of Joseph and Mary's children, apparently lacked parental guidance from her mother and stepfather or she had a willful mind of her own. Perhaps she was a victim of the old bundling custom of permitting unmarried men and women to court, fully clothed, in bed. Though ministers thundered against bundling, others defended its practicality in saving oil for a light and wood for fires.

She'll sometimes say when she lies down,
She can't be cumbered with a gown,
And that the weather is so warm
To take it off can mean no harm!

Sarah was 16 years old, living with her parents in Preston, CT. when it became known that she was pregnant. She was hastily married in the Congregational Church to John Rayment of Hartford, CT in March 1772. Their first child, Jonathan, was born in September 1772 and died while an infant. Their next child was a daughter, Drusilla, born 24 January 1774 in Massachusetts who also died as an infant. John and Sarah Olin Rayment had a third child, Susannah Rayment/Raymond, born 5 August 1775 in Massachusetts.

John Rayment was only 18 years old when they married and had very little to offer his young wife in worldly goods. Both he and Sarah made the trip to Scituate, Rhode Island to accept her share, 104 pounds and 6 pence of her father's estate. John and Sarah signed the receipt for the Scituate Town Council in March, 1773, one year after their marriage. They moved to Massachusetts where their marriage failed in 1775.

John Rayment married a second time in 1777 to Sarah Cox and had 14 children born in Massachusetts, Vermont and Canada. He and his family settled on Mille Roches Islands (now Sheiks Island), west of Cornwall, Ontario, Canada, on the St. Lawrence River. John was said to be a large stout man of few words who was very strict, if not severe, with his children.

Sarah Olin Rayment had custody of her daughter, Susannah, and moved to New York City. She returned to her maiden name, Olin, and was listed in the 1790 census for New York City as being the head of household and having a teenage daughter. Later that same year, Sarah and her daughter moved in with her parents in Preston, CT. Three years later in 1793, Sarah again recognized as Sarah Olin married Benjamin Olin, son of Phillip and Mary Green Olin. Benjamin was a nephew to Sarah and it was his first marriage. The marriage took place 10 October 1793, in Griswold, New London CT. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Levi Hart. Sarah gave birth to twins 16 February 1794 at Preston, CT. One lived for only three days and the other six days. Sarah died the same year, three days after Christmas.

Benjamin Olin married again to Sally Bonn in 1795, making his home in Preston, CT and having 11 children.

Sarah Olin Rayment, Olin's daughter, Susannah, married Enos Beham, 28 November 1790, when she was still 15 years old. She and Enos made their home in New Huntington, Chittendon County, VT and raised a family of 12 children.

Chapter 13

Son, Joseph Born 1740

Joseph[3] Olin was born 1740 in Exeter, Washington County, RI, the same year when the unofficial but popular Joseph Jenks, Governor of the Rhode Island Colony, died. While neighborhood families mourned the loss of their respected Governor, the Joseph [2] family was rejoicing in the birth of their fourth child, the first son after three daughters. Mary (Aylesworth), Joseph's wife, had little trouble convincing the proud father to name the boy, Joseph, after himself.

Before the birth of young Joseph, his family had moved from the coastal village of East Greenwich to a smaller inland village of Exeter, where Mary gave birth to the remaining six children. Joseph [2] made occasional trips, six miles on foot, back to East Greenwich, to visit his friends and to keep up with colonial news. He made it a point to see his brothers and sisters, especially his mother and father living in North Warwick.

When young Joseph was 10 to 12 years old, his father found the boy a place where he could earn his living and a trade as an apprentice. The Greene family in East Greenwich was well known to the Olins. They owned and operated the "Rope Walk" where ropes of all sizes were made. Young Joseph was apprenticed to the Greenes who would provide him with food, room, clothes, and training while he worked and showed respect toward his benefactors.

The Greene family was trying to cultivate hemp, a 4 to 12 foot high woody plant, the fibers of which were removed and processed into strands for ropes. They had not yet been successful so they had to rely on low grade wild hemp that grew along the edges of swamps, or import bales of good grade hemp from the merchants in England. Joseph's first job was to open bales, separate clumps of fibers and comb through them until the fibers separated to given sizes that could be woven into strands.

As Joseph grew older and stronger he was allowed to work on the "rope walk", turned the large crank of the wheel which operated the multiple spindles for the two experienced rope makers who walked backwards from the wheel. The rope maker played out his strands from

a large coil of hemp that was wound about his waist. The finished ropes varied in size from tarred cordages to cable proportions. The waste fibers, called oakum, were saved to use for caulking seams in wood boats or ships of the seas. By the time Joseph had completed his obligation as apprentice to the Greene family, he had become an accomplished rope maker, capable of earning a good living. However, this trade was not to his liking because of the noxious odor from the tar and the continuing rawness of his hands caused by the coarse hemp fibers.

While Joseph was learning the rope making trade in East Greenwich, his father had moved the family from Exeter to Scituate, Providence County, RI, where he supported his family by cutting trees, removing their stumps and the soil from above granite rock in a working quarry. On one of Joseph's father's trips to East Greenwich, young Joseph complained about his dissatisfaction with being a rope maker. His father suggested that he come home and look for work at the granite quarry at Chepachet, a mile or so above Scituate.

Shortly after the visit, Joseph's father, Joseph(2), died in 1760 and left six underage children and his widow, Mary (Aylesworth). This presented a problem to young Joseph. He was now the man of the family and felt that he should be home at his mother's side. But if he left his present job that was paying him well, he might not find such at home. He decided to continue on at the "rope walk." Meanwhile, his mother was appointed administratrix of his father's estate and guardian of his underage brothers and sisters. When his mother sent news that she was married again, to Nathan Bennett, who was taking her and all the underage children to his farm in Preston, CT, Joseph had mixed feelings; he felt inadequate to support the family but he was concerned about the future outcome of his mother's decision on his younger brothers and sisters.

In 1762, Joseph was 22 years old and free from family obligations. He was restless. He had a good horse and some cash in his pocket so he said goodby to his nearby sisters, the Greene family, and his friends and headed for the granite quarry near Scituate. When five-foot, six-inch Joseph Olin dismounted from his horse at the quarry, the master quarry man recognized the potential strength of the broad shouldered young man with his prominent head, small shining black eyes and brown hair, and hired him immediately.

The Chepachet granite quarry produced cut stone for building blocks,

head stones, and retaining walls for docks. However, its specialty was mica found in the seams of granite. Mica was cut to use for slates and glass. Since the British had imposed high taxes on glass products and would not allow the colonists to manufacture any, mica was the best alternate for window glass. Once the seam of mica was separated from the granite, it required gentle handling because it is brittle, unlike the stone itself. Stone was in high demand but, because of it's weight, it was too heavy to haul any great distance and make a profit.

Joseph cut and hauled blocks of stone and on occasion worked the seams of mica. It was soon apparent to the master quarrier that Joseph possessed a natural ability to handle mica. He was transferred from the heavy stone work to the delicate task of opening or splitting the seams within the chunks of mica. He learned to trim the sheets of thin, clear mica into small panes for window glass. He could trim with very little scrap and kept the edges chip free. Joseph liked this work much better than rope making and was being paid more than others at the quarry. Still, his hands continued to be kept raw from the sharp glass-like edges of the mica.

At least a dozen licenses were issued between 1745 and 1762 to operating taverns offering spirited drinks in the Town of Scituate. Joseph roomed and boarded at one of them, and seldom frequented any of the others. He became friends with a master carpenter, Hugh Cole, and the local blacksmith, Daniel Smith. They would sit for hours discussing the issues between the colonies and the British government. About the same time that Joseph arrived in Scituate, Reuben Hopkins was ordained Elder of the Six Principle Baptist Church.

Joseph met the Aylesworth family while attending the Baptist church. He became infatuated with the tall, slim, and attractive Sarah, daughter of David and Martha (Franklin) Aylesworth and proposed to her. They were married about 1763.

Joseph was known as a man who drew a straight line. He loved his friends and hated his enemies and never deceived either. No man ever doubted him and all believed that he would do what he promised, unquestionably honest and sincere in all his dealings. He argued against violence and war, yet expressed his faith in the independent future of his colony.

During these early years of Joseph and Sarah's married life, Gideon Harris was the Town Clerk of Scituate until 1777. Perhaps he was somewhat responsible for changing the spelling of the surname Olin to

Olden. There were other families in town with surnames very close to the Olin spelling and pronunciation. These families had last names, such as Owen and Olney. If the clerk was overly busy or perhaps not well educated, Olin could become written as Olden.

Author's Note: The official records for Joseph, born 1740, and his marriage to Sarah Aylesworth plus the records for the births of their children (probably eight) have not been found and create our so-called missing link. Perhaps someone in future generations will find records as yet uncovered. Clues from old letters between family members, gravestones, and census records have encouraged me to speculate. Confusion exists because there were other Olden families in existence at that time. This particular Joseph(3) Olden was listed in the Rhode Island 1774 census for the Town of Scituate, Providence County, RI and later in the US Census, 1790, for the Town of Guilford, Windham County in the anticipated State of Vermont.

The birth of Joseph and Sarah's first two children, John, named for his great-grandfather, and Joseph, named to carry on from his grandfather and father tempted him to change jobs again. He had a home of his own, a family, a good job, and he disliked farming. He was becoming restless again and his hands were giving him trouble. In 1766, the Hope Furnace was located less than a mile from where Joseph lived. The operation at the furnace had been converting inferior iron ore into wrought iron nails and recently began converting high grade ore into cannons. The newly discovered ore was eight miles away at Cranston, south of Providence. Joseph owned a good, strong, team of horses and a solid, dependable wagon. he began making two round-trips a day between Cranston and Hope Furnace which was now casting two sizeable cannons a day. Joseph and other teamsters had help in loading and unloading the mined ore. The road between Cranston and Hope Furnace was vital to the Rhode Island Colony's efforts to produce cannons against the threat of the British. Due to the heavy wagon traffic, the road required constant repair which was funded by Rhode Island sanctioned lotteries.

The line was drawn in November, 1775 by Rhode Island, against the British by an act of defiance which omitted the King's name from public documents. The two openly opposed factions were known as Whigs (rebels) and Tories or Loyalists (British sympathizers). The popular definition of a Tory in the eyes of the rebels was "A Tory is a thing whose head is in England, it's body in America, and it's neck

ought to be stretched." Colonists who were willing to give moral support but not their lives were asked to sign an "Oath of Allegiance". Joseph Olden signed and officially became known as a Whig.

The Continental Congress declared its independence on July 4, 1776. Until then, the British forces were primarily in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia. However, on the 8th day of December 1776, the British forces landed and took possession of the Islands and the shores of Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island. The British remained until October 1779, during which time the Rhode Islanders were very unhappy. Their gardens, orchards, and livestock were being taken without warning.

A company of men from Scituate was recruited under the command of Joseph Knight. Governor Cooke directed Knight to fully equip his men with arms, ammunition, and blankets to defend against additional landings by the British. Knight's company joined other Rhode Island companies and succeeded in forcing the British from the mainland. The British regrouped to maintain a garrison on one of the islands in the Bay to allow them to control any activity on the waters.

Although Joseph Olden did not participate in the actual defense of his county, he was playing a major role. Cannons, cannon balls and shot were badly needed by the Continental Army. He continued in his role as a teamster, hauling iron ore from the mines in Cranston to the smelting plant at Hope Furnace. His friend, Daniel Smith, the blacksmith kept his wagon in repair an replaced shoes on his horses as needed. Joseph's dedication contribution to his family and to his country did not conflict with his beliefs against violence and war.

The people of New England cowered in fear on May 19, 1780 when the day turned as dark as the night. The natives, colonists, and the British army all stopped what they were doing and huddled in their shelters, speaking softly and praying in the dim light of their candles. The dark day was thought to be an omen or a warning from God; but, a warning to whom?

News that the British army, under command of General Burgoyne had retreated across the St. Lawrence River, and reports of the successful Sullivan and Clinton expedition through central Pennsylvania and New York, and that the Colonial rebels were checking and holding the British at New York City, Boston and Newport were encouraging. Residents were cheered by the French decision to give limited aid to the colonists, and of the timely intervention by Spain to recapture Gibraltar from Great Britain. Some residents were becoming restless, and in

keeping with the pioneer spirit, felt the urge to move on to new territory. The only territory that was safe from the British and the Indians was close by to the north, known as Cumberland or Vermont.

Joseph and his cronies began spending more time at the taverns, and conversing for hours about the final outcome of the war and what effect it would have on their lives. They remembered that several hundred Tories returned to England and France, thousands fled north to Canada, and hundreds migrated to Natchez, 200 miles up the Mississippi River. Natchez was in a no man's land, with ownership changing hands between Spain, France, and England. The Louisiana Territory was a mixed ethnic country with no specific allegiance to any. With the influx of Tories during the 1700s, Natchez was often referred unofficially as the 14th Colony in America.

Joseph and his neighbors had confidence in their new Continental congress and in General George Washington's army. After weeks of discussion, many Rhode Island families decided to sell out and relocate somewhere in the Vermont Territory. The Territory of Vermont was a political pawn claimed by the colonies of New York, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, yet under the protection of the Continental Congress. Joseph felt that by agreeing to migrate with his friends, his convictions against violence and war would not be compromised.

After selling his property in Scituate, RI, Joseph arranged for the appointed town auctioneer to sell most of his household goods, kept only the necessities for starting afresh in VT. He and his two older sons, John and Joseph, ages 16 and 15, respectively, loaded the stout wagon with farm tools, bags of grain for seed, bags of ground meal and flour, a barrel of salted meat, a barrel of apples, a small barrel of salt and the larger furniture, such as beds and bureaus. They bought a two-wheel cart and a team of oxen to carry Sarah's kitchenware, spinning wheel, candle molds, bedding and her private chest, and left room for her to ride. Off they went in 1781, Joseph driving his team from the wagon, John walking and goading the oxen pulling the cart, and young Joseph herding the six sheep and two cows bringing up the rear. The younger children were expected to walk until they tired then they were allowed to find a place to ride. All were leaving the comforts of an established home for an unknown future two years before the peace treaty with Britain was satisfied.

Other excited and apprehensive families were traveling north on the newly opened stage turnpike to Fitzburg, Massachusetts before turning

east to Greenfield and again north to Cumberland County, Vermont Territory, a distance of about 150 miles. Their trip was treated as a holiday. It took them five days at a leisurely pace to reach the Town of Guilford, Vermont where the roads were poor and far between. Town officials at Guilford informed the migrants that only a few Lots were available in the town and that they were located in the northwest corner near the former Governor's grant and in the southwest corner near the Massachusetts border.

Joseph made arrangements for his family and animals to eat and sleep at a tavern for the night, much to the delight of Sarah and the younger children. After all, they been cooking and sleeping in the open on their trip. This unexpected luxury was a treat. Leaving the two older boys to mind the younger children, Joseph and Sarah took one of their horses over to the blacksmith for shoe replacement. Sarah stood by innocently watching the "smithy" forge a horseshoe and hammer it while red hot to fit the horse's hoof. Suddenly a stray hot iron chip flew into her right eye, causing her to scream and rub her eye with her fist. The rubbing only forced the chip farther into her eye, making a jagged tear. There was no doctor available to administer proper surgery or medication. Sarah reluctantly allowed the blacksmith's woman to try her best. Sarah would never have vision in her right eye again.

Joseph was not only shocked by what happened to his Sarah, he was troubled about her future, particularly the awesome challenge of establishing a home in the unknown. He offered to return to Rhode Island, to forget about a new life in Vermont. Sarah smiled through her tears, and told Joseph that she would be all right. She was able to see well with her other eye and insisted that he move his family on.

Instead of continuing on, Joseph kept his family in Guilford Center for a few more nights, partly with respect to Sarah's problem, but primarily concerned about all the rumors surrounding Vermont's situation. The men from Vermont, known as the "Green Mountain Boys," had recaptured Fort Ticonderoga in New York from the British at the beginning of the Revolutionary War and together with local farmers drove off the invading British in Bennington, Vermont. Then characteristically thinking they had done enough, they were content to sit out the rest of the rebel conflict. The idea of no more war or violence impressed Joseph until he was told that Ethan Allen, the famous leader of the Green Mountain Boys, was not satisfied with peace in the Green Mountains of Vermont.

Colonel Allen emerged as the driving force in Vermont's attempt to gain independent statehood. However, his tactics at times provided to be detrimental to the cause. He became noted for his abusiveness and unmerciful enforcement of his fetish; he pitted neighbor against neighbor in the hills and valleys of the Green Mountains. Although the States of New Hampshire and Massachusetts tried to claim the Vermont territory, New York was the most aggressive. Those in favor of New York were called "Yorkers," treated disrespectfully and with property and bodily injury during Colonel Allen's presence or at his suggestion.

Both groups, "Vermonters" and "Yorkers," had provided their share of recruits during the early stages of the war. Each soldier was issued: "a good musquet, a good bayonet or tomahawk, one good knapsack, one powder flask or horn, one bullet pouch, and sufficient tumpline (strong cord attached to a broad leather strap to be placed across the forehead to assist a man in carrying a pack on his back or carrying a wounded comrade.)"

New York ruled that the land claimed and paid for by the settlers was invalid and was trying to resell the land a second time to the same settlers. Most settlers who had property deeded and recorded by New York felt obligated to support the New York cause.

After listening to the heated stories involving both sides of the Vermont issue, Joseph left the tavern to sit on a stump to contemplate what he had heard. He had not expected to find so much unrest or induced agitation. Two men came out of the tavern, recognized Joseph as a newcomer, and promptly asked him if he was a "Yorker" or "Vermonter?" Joseph had no experience, good or bad, with New York and he did not really know enough about Vermont's chances for Statehood. He did, however, feel inclined to have Vermont try for statehood. He told the men that he would be in sympathy with the "Vermonters" but wished to remain neutral when it came to violence. the men respected his position shook his hand, and assured him that he would be welcome as a neighbor.

Joseph, after explaining the explosive situation to his family, offered to return to Rhode Island. Again he was encouraged by his f namily's unanimous decision to move on and set up a new home.

During the next ten years, the town of Guilford's records suffered permanent damage which has handicapped researchers. At times both factions were in control, each with their own set of officials and records. On occasion, neither group dared to record proceedings in an

effort to maintain secrecy. During this period of jealousy and confusion, one party stole the records of the other and hid them together with their own records including deeds, and proprietor's papers in leather pouches under the earth in Guilford's town pound. Cattle were allowed to trample the area to cover any evidence of a burial. Later, when the issues were settled, the pouches were dug up only to find they had decomposed and were barely recognizable for what they were.

Originally, the conditional terms for each grantee of a lot of 50 acres or more, required the grantee within five years to plant and cultivate a minimum of five acres for each 50 acres he took or forfeit the property. Land was reserved for public use, sometimes called propagation lots for schools, churches and Town meeting houses. Any documentation of where Joseph Olin's family purchased or rented land, or whatever they moved into a ready made shelter of some kind or building a temporary shelter has not surfaced. Joseph did purchase land claimed by New York State in 1786 where he lived until he died and where his youngest son Reuben raised his family. But the intervening five years remain a mystery. Yet, he must have owned land somewhere in the Town of Guilford because:"

Quote: "April ye 29th, 1783

Then the freeholders and other inhabitans of the District of Guilford, in the County of Cumberland and State of New York meet together and by a majority of votes and made choices of Edward Carpenter, Moderator. Each responsible office was filled by one or more freeholder. Item #13 included Joseph Olden as one of five 'fence viewers.' "

In the early days of our country, the absence of fences or enclosures brought about strange laws. One such law set forth the election of Fence Viewers. These elected officers settled all disputes between land owners over boundaries and challenged landowners to maintain fences in good repair.

Meanwhile, Colonel Ethan Allen stepped up his campaign to harass the "Yorkers" by promoting raids by the "Vermonters." Feeling between the factions became so intense that many neglected their pursuits. Neighbors suspected each other. Arms were openly carried. People traveled in groups. John, Joseph's 19-year old son craving the excitement, joined the "Yorkers" and served on their safety committee.

He did not share in his father's philosophy of avoiding violence.

In 1784 the last serious confrontation between the "Yorkers" and the "Vermonters" was led personally by Colonel Allen who routed out the "Yorkers" in South Guilford near Packer Corners. The "Yorkers", John Olden included, retreated across the state line into Massachusetts where they were safe. Most of the fugitives appealed to the pretended State of Vermont for leniency. They promised not to fight any more if they were allowed to return to their homes.

Neglected by the State of New York and worn out by the opposition, the "Yorkers" of Guilford gave in totally and made their peace by joining the Vermont cause. They took an oath of allegiance, their confiscated property was conditionally returned, and they helped to promote Vermont to statehood.

Author's Note: All records of Joseph and his sons: John, Joseph, William, and Reuben that have survived the turmoil of Vermont have the surname Olin shown as Olden, Olen and once Aden. The US Census of Vermont in 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830 indicate Olin or Olden.

On the 10th of July 1785, in the Town of Guilford, Windham County (formerly Cumberland County), John Olden, now 21 years old, paid William Stafford 100 pounds for 25 acres, 1/4 of Lot #179 in the extreme southwest corner of Guilford Township. Six months later John Olen sold the same property to William Shattuck. On the 13th of March 1786, John Olden, freeman, was elected one of eight Guilford hog constables. The Hog Constable (Roman term for Count of the Stables) was charged with seeing that loose hogs had rings in the noses (to minimize rooting) and was properly identified with ear marks. Constables carried a folding knife, a special tool similar to pliers, and a book listing owners names and assigned marks.

Later, in 1786, John Olin was listed on the New York distribution of lands in Chenango County, New York as John Olden/Alden, Vermont Sufferer entitled to 160 acres for his suffering by neglect from the State of New York during the Vermont dispute. He joined with others who also received lands in Chenango County on a trip west and south to the Clinton tract known as Jericho. John promised his folks and his steady girl friend that he would be back within a year with his future planned.

The elder Joseph Olden of Guilford paid 20 pounds for 100 acres in

Lot #175, originally drawn to Asa Flagg, to John Stafford on February 9, 1786. This is the first indication of Joseph owning land in Vermont. Judging from the price paid, one would assume there were no buildings.

It is also recorded that Joseph Olin paid 20 pounds for another 100 acres in Lot #173 to William Stafford in March, 1786. The very next month Joseph made another buy in the Town of Guilford on 20th of April, 1786.

> Quote: "I, Richard Williams of Guilford, in consideration of 25 pounds etc. paid jointly by Joseph Olin and Elisha Brown both of Leyden in Hampshire Co. and Mass. etc. do convey etc. — bounded etc. on the west side of the rode at or adjoining Solomon Alexander's land running northerly by said rode etc. to Ichabod Packer's land then westerly to as the fence now stands to land I have sold to John Noyes easterly with said state line and Alexander land by estimation nine acres with the buildings thereon."

Confronted with the location of this particular-nine acre parcel being in the Town of Leyden, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, and Joseph Olin, referred to as being from Leyden, gives the impression that the Joseph Olin family was living in the Town of Leyden, prior to the purchase. This was not the case. Joseph was living in the Town of Guilford, Windham County, VT, not in Leyden, Massachusetts, because he had been serving as one of nine elected "Surveyors of Highways" for the Town of Guilford since March, 1785.

A surveyor of highways required some understanding of mathematics needed in-line calculations. He had to use good judgment as to where to run roads and place bridges. However, he need not be tactful and often could get away with doing an unpopular thing simply because he was elected by his peers. His toughest chore was to enforce the town mandate that required all able bodied males to work a minimum of four days annually on repairing or building roads. The mandate included the surveyor of highways.

Where the Joseph Olin/Olden family actually lived between the years 1781 and 1786 in the Town of Guilford still remains a mystery. However, in 1786 he was buying several lots, perhaps adding to whatever he may have already had. He built a substantial framed two-story house with a field stone foundation on Lot #173, where he and Sarah lived out their lives. it was also the same house where Reuben, Joseph's youngest son, raised his family of nine children.

Joseph's son John returned home from Jericho, New York, after completing a summer's work on his new farm. he had built himself a small cabin, cleared some land, and was anxious to get back to plant his spring crops. After selling his 41 acres in Lot #179 to John Dray for 25 pounds in March 1787, John and his wife Sarah, left Vermont for the rolling hills of Chenango County, New York.

The Green Mountains of lower Vermont were rugged, steep, narrow valleys, rocky and filled with thousands of trees. Trying to plant crops in any quantity proved to be impractical for Joseph. The sight of his pathetic new furrows straggling amount the numerous stumps and rocks was discouraging but he did enjoy the changing season of winter to spring when it was maple sugar making time. He owned hundreds of maple trees, but tapped only a few, enough to supply his family with sweetening and a little extra for bartering. He discovered that he could make money if he increased his sugar output. The country was beginning to stabilize; the Revolutionary War was over. The newly independent United States Government was functioning, and businesses were being encouraged.

The maple sugar industry began flourishing, stimulated by the humanitarians, particularly the Philadelphia Quakers, who bemoaned the situation of the West Indies slaves, who were forced to man-handle sugar cane from which molasses and white sugar were processed. Patriots hoped to make America self sufficient and had no desire to aid the commerce of the British Empire which controlled the cane product in the Indies and it's ultimate transport. Vast acres of woodlands loaded with maple sugar trees covered the North Eastern United States. Judge William Cooper of Cooperstown, Otsego County, New York and Tench Coxe, of Philadelphia, who became Assistant Secretary of Treasury under President Washington, became the promotional and benefactor champions of the new maple sugar industry.

If the sap of the maple was boiled down to syrup it provided immediate sweetening but it would spoil in a short time, especially during the heat of the summer. If the syrup was boiled down to sugar, the sugar would keep indefinitely, much like white sugar. In the interest of establishing this lucrative business, Coxe wrote many publications detailing the methods of collecting and making maple sugar and listing the necessary utensils: kettles, iron ladles, screw augers, buckets, flat pans, coolers, storage troughs, sugar molds, etc. Interested parties could buy or lease lands at low cost compared to the cost of

cleared land. The maple tree was there for use. Cooper and Coxe financed hundreds of maple sugar farmers, a business that first started seriously around Lake Otsego and spread rapidly into the New England States.

Apparently Joseph Olden had anticipated potential profits from the maple trees. He intentionally purchased lots that were to become known as "sugar orchards" later known as "sugar bush." He acquired the necessary sugar making equipment and went big time into the business the spring of 1787, assisted by three sons, Joseph, William, and Reuben and perhaps by some of his daughters.

Killing frosts hit the crops, gardens, flowers, fruit trees and even deciduous trees, such as the sugar maple. The devastating frost continued throughout the entire summer of 1787. Many families depended upon leeks, fish, cat tail tubers, and the bark of trees to survive the following winter. Joseph was tempted to tap his maples during the prolonged cold snap of summer, but refrained from doing so in fear of damaging the trees.

When he was 21 years old, Joseph's second son, young Joseph[4] married Leah Cudworth whose parents lived in the adjacent Town of Halifax. The wedding was held at the new house built by his father in the Town of Guilford. Leah's parents, Timothy and Deborah Cudworth, attended the ceremony and reception on the 5th of August 1786. Young Joseph and Leah moved next door into the small cabin-like house which belonged to his father. Joseph continued working with his father on the farm and in the maple sugar business. He wanted to build a house of his own for Leah and his first two sons so, in 1791, Joseph paid his father 20 pounds for 50 acres in the home Lot #173. Young Joseph signed his name with an X.

The school system was deplorable in Windham County, particularly in the Town of Guilford. With the Revolutionary War, the Vermont conflict, and the rapid increase in population taking place all at the same time, little action was taken regarding the children's education. On December 2, 1785, the Town of Guilford voted to create nine school districts. The Olin/Olden family was committed to District #7. The minutes of a 1796 Town meeting demonstrate the definite need.

> Quote: "voted that all mail persons under 21 and femails under 18 the above 4 both seckes shall be considered the schoalers in each school district in Town of Guilford."

By this time all of Joseph and Sarah's children were over 21 years old. It is doubtful that any had any appreciable amount of schooling.

The pretended State of Vermont finally became a recognized state by the United States Government on February 19, 1791, the first state to be admitted to the Union after the original 13 states. The Town of Guilford with a population of 2,432 was the largest town in Vermont. Businesses within a mile of Joseph's farm provided lumber for his houses and out buildings sawed by Joseph Gallup's sawmill on Green River. Captain Barney's grist mill ground Joseph's grains for his family and animals. Joseph made occasional trips to Packer Corners to visit the Tavern and perhaps to buy some whiskey at Jeremy Packer's distillery.

The Baptist faith was predominate in the town. The Baptists were first organized in 1770 and grew to four parishes throughout the town. The last, established in 1800 was three quarters of a mile north of the Olin/Olden homestead at the foot of Pulpit Mountain.

John Noyes, Samuel Fish, and Joseph Olden were appointed as a committee to appraise the estate of Joseph Gallup when his will was probated in 1800-1808. All four of these men were neighbors living within 1-1/2 miles of each other. Neighborliness was considered a virtue of the times, particularly after the degrading period during the Vermont conflict.

Abijah Prince and his wife Lucy, who were both black, left their life of service to whites in Massachusetts and settled on Lot #187, on the east side of Green River, about 3/4 mile upstream from the Olin/Olden homestead. This family was harassed by a next door neighbor who would tear fences apart or burn stacks of hay. After years of suffering from just this one individual. the Town Council relocated the Prince family and their six children a couple of lots northeast from the offending neighbor. Although the harassment stopped, the Baptist church never accepted the Prince family into their congregation, including the one which the Olin family attended. Abijah lived to be 88 years old and died in 1794.

When Joseph Olin and his family arrived in Guilford, the Prince family was already there and were tolerated. Lucy Prince became one of Sarah's best friends and Sarah looked to Lucy for advice and counsel. Sarah was slowly loosing sight in her good left eye. Her right eye was totally blind from the injury several years before.

It is believed that in addition to four sons, Joseph and Sarah also had

four daughters. The girls were healthy, robust and attractive, all possessing some of their mother's freckles. Two of the girls married Williams brothers, Davis and Singleton. One married young Peter Packer of Packer Corners and the other married Michael Whiting, possibly from the Whiting family that Whitingham, another town in western Windham County, was named after. All four marriages may have taken place prior to 1800 and perhaps before 1790.

Sarah often confided her concerns about her daughters to Lucy Prince. Sarah needed a confidante whom she could trust and who would listen to her troubles, and Lucy soon became like a mother to Sarah. Lucy was a respected midwife, capable of doctoring most illnesses and injuries. But it was Lucy's philosophy on life and it's rewards that sustained Sarah through her daughters' growing years. Sarah felt herself inadequate, hardly able to see what she was sewing, cooking, or how the girls looked.

Sarah loved beauty, particularly flowers. She was determined to keep flowers blooming indoors and out but lost many of her plants during the year of the great frost. With encouragement from her family, neighbors who found seeds for her, and encouragement from Lucy, Sarah planted hollyhocks and morning glories that blossoms of which open early in the morning, and four o'clocks that bloom in late afternoon. She made sure to plant them far enough away from the home's foundation so that Joseph would have room to bank the foundation with hay or straw to keep the cellar and house warmer during the winter. Sarah's daffodils, peonies, and lilacs still blossomed beautifully, as did the fruit trees and wild flowers. Sarah enjoyed their fragrance, knowing that they were beautiful to the eyes of others.

When Joseph and Sarah's son William became 20 years old in 1793, he expressed his desire to follow in his brother's footsteps to Jericho in Chenango County, New York. John had been there about six years and sent word that cleared land had more top soil and was more productive than land in Vermont. Over half of Chenango County was either flat land of the Susquehanna River or gentle sloping lands of the tributary valleys. More people were moving into the area via new turnpikes and river traffic. William's parents agreed that he could leave provided their youngest son, Reuben, would continue to stay to help his folks on the farm. Reuben readily agreed as he did not have the desire to travel like his brothers or neighbors.

Meanwhile, the maple syrup-sugar business was doing well. After

the first years of trial and error, Joseph decided to change his operation to make it more profitable. The nine-acre sugar orchard that he purchased with Elisha Brown in 1786 in Leyden, Massachusetts was located on an improved road that led directly south to Greenfield where small boats could navigate down the Connecticut River to the coastal harbor at Old Saybrook. It provided a natural market route for their maple products. Joseph and Brown worked out an agreement whereby Joseph would collect and boil sap to the syrup stage, barrel it, and transport it the six miles over unimproved roads to the Olin/Brown farm in Leyden. The good grade syrup would be shipped on, while Brown took the time to boil down the poorer grade syrup to sugar before shipping that on to the markets. This cooperative effort not only prevented some spoilage it allowed Joseph to begin his normal spring farming activities on time.

In the meantime Joseph and Leah moved their growing family of two sons and two daughters over to the Town of Whitingham where they had purchased the old Houghton farm. An abstract of the purchase reads:

> "Warranty Deed of James Houghton of Guilford, VT to Joseph Olden, Jr. of Guilford, VT., yeoman, dated 10 October 1796, conveys 50 acres, 1/4 of Lot #1 in Whiting's grant for 60 pounds."

Joseph returned home every spring when the sap was running to help his father with the "round the clock" maple sugar business.

Reuben and Hannah were married at her parent's home and moved into the small house vacated by Joseph and Leah. Reuben purchased three pieces of property from his brother Joseph between the years 1800 and 1805. This cleared young Joseph from owning any lands in the Town of Guilford. The elder Joseph and Sarah lived alone in their big two-story house.

Joseph senior's health was slipping away, year by year, but Sarah, despite her inability to see, presented a picture of a healthy and robust woman. Both missed their children relying upon the support of each other from day to day.

After commuting and supporting his father for eleven years every spring collecting and boiling sap, young Joseph decided that it was becoming too much of a sacrifice on his part. His own family needed him at home and his father did not need to work as hard. His father understood his son's position, however, not wishing to admit his own

old age problems, continued with Reuben's support to make his maple syrup and sugar.

But the Olins could not keep up the total farm chores, let alone trying to work night and day during the sap season. After struggling through three more seasons, Joseph, 70 years old, sold his maple sugaring equipment to Elisha Brown in Leyden.

In 1815, the Town of Guilford "voted to purchase a hearse and harness for same." After its delivery, a livery man owning a good pair of matched black horses, was paid $2.00 for each funeral he attended. A year later a hearse house was built for $35 adjacent to the white meeting house. The hearse was a platform, uncovered, with wheels, that held the strapped on coffin covered with a black woolen cloth, or pall. The hearse cost $40 and the special harness cost $18.

Joseph Olin/Olden died in June, 1821, age 81, without a will. He did however, make a final wish known to Sarah and Reuben about his funeral. He requested that his last ride on this earth be in the new nearse pulled by two black horses. Sarah had Jopseph's body carried by the hearse from home to the Baptist Church and back to the Stark Cemetery where the Olins had a small plot.

Widow Sarah declined to act as administrator of her husband's estate. Sarah was unable to read or write because of her blindness. The court on June 27, 1821 appointed a respected group of neighbors as a committee; Joseph Boyden, Administrator and James Packer, Joshua Culver and Amos Gallup appraisers. No record of Sarah's death has been located as yet. Her burial should have been next to her husband, Joseph Olin/Olden in the Stark cemetery, next to their homestead.

Author's Note: The entire probate proceedings for the estate of Joseph Olin, #587, Town of Guilford, Windham County, VT took place over a two-year period, from Joseph's death in June 1821 until probate discharge in June 1823. In the interest of our OLIN Family history and the relationship of the early 1800s, I feel that the total information on Joseph(3) Olin/Olden's probate proceeding should be shown.

Estate of Joseph Olin

Guilford, Windham County, Vermont
No. 587 Intestate - Joseph Boyden, Esq.

1821 June 27	Widow declines to Administer	Vol. 10	page 248
	Appointment to Administrator		
	Appointment of Appraisers		
Aug. 22	Appraisers inventory	10	282
Sept. 26	Decree barring claims	10	303
1822 April 24	Administrator submits to referees	10	440
	Assignments	10	441
June 26	Award of referees	10	468
	Notice of license		
June 24	License R.E.	10	497
1823 April 2	Citation on administrator	11	24
Apr. 23	Hearing on Administrator's account postponed	11	35
June 25	Administration account	11	49
	Discharge of Administrator	11	50

—Details of Above Index—

1821 June 26 Sarah Olin, widow of Joseph Olin declined administration.
Appraisers appointed were: James Packard
Joshua Culver
Amos Gallop

1821 July 4

Be it remembered that Joseph Boyden, Administrator on the estate of Joseph Olin late of Guilford in said District deceased intestate, returned the following inventory and appraisal of the estate said (deceased) into the registry which is accepted by the Judge and ordered to be recorded to wit.

50 acres of land with buildings	$400.00
12 acres adjoining by estimation	54.00
1 yoake of oxen	50.00
2 cows and calf	34.00
1 mare and colt	26.33
1 two-year old colt	13.00
1 yearling swine and 1 pig	5.00
1 ox cart	13.00

6 sheep 5.00
one set of old plough irons and clevis and pin 1.20
3 old harrow teeth 75
one old shovel, dung fork and hoe 50
2 old chains 2.00
1 old grindstone 50
2 old axes 1.00
1 hay knive and frow 50
1 iron dog and wedge and misc. old iron 50
1 stone hammer and one old seythe 1.00
2 feather beds with bedding 24.00
2 bed quilts and two cover lids 11.00
6 bed blankets 8.00
one old loom and two old wheels 3.00
8 old cyder barrels 1.67
12 old sheets 5.00
bolsters and pillow cases 1.20
linen and shirts of deceased 1.17
3 bolsters cases 34
other wearing apparel 8.50
1 pair of new shoes 1.00
1 pair of boots 1.75
2 large gimblets 25
pewter tin and crockery 1.25
iron hollow ware and some wooden ware 3.00
1 old chest of drawers, 1 old chest & 1 table 1.75
TOTAL **$681.96**

[sic]

1822 Apr. 23 Reuben Olin(Olen) appeared as a claimant.

June 1 Reuben Olin awarded $380.88 and back taxes $10.94

Apr. 24 Sarah Olen received possion part of property forever. Recorded of said court remaining said goods and chattels to be used enjoyed and possession by the said Sarah Olin as her own absolute property to wit.

one cow $16.00
1 yearly swine and 1 pig 5.80
6 sheep 5.00
2 feather beds and bedding 24.00
2 bed quilts and two coverlets 11.00
6 bed blankets 8.00
1 old loom and two wheels 3.00
4 old cyder barrels 84

12 old sheets	5.00
bolster and pillow cases	1.20
linen and shirts of deceased	1.17
2 bolster cases	.34
other wearing apparel	8.50
1 pair of new shoes	1.00
1 pair of boots	1.75
2 large gimblets	.25
pewter and crockery	1.25
iron hollow ware and some wooden ware	3.00
one old chest of drawers and 1 old chest and 1 table	1.75
TOTAL	**$98.85**

Joseph Boyden, Administrator of Joseph Olin Estate bill dated June 27, 1821 account against the Estate of Joseph Olin, deceased.

1821

to one day of myself to the probate court	$2.00
to one day for the man that gave bond	2.00
to cash paid for probate fees	3.38
to notify the appraisers	.75
attending the appraisers of said estate	1.25
three appraisers fees	1.50
to 1/2 day in looking over the papers	.62
to take away a cow and making sale of her	.75
to attending the probate court	1.25
cash paid for recording inventory	.80
to pasturing the oxen two weeks	1.00
to cash paid for liquor at the vendue in selling the colt	.32
to one journey to Marlboro to attend the probate court	2.00
cash paid the probate court	.75
to one day to Brattleboro to publish Judge of Probate orders	1.25
cash paid the printer	1.25

1822

to attending the probate court one day	1.25
to cash paid the probate court	1.67
to setup advertising for vendue	.50
to notify referees to arbritate Ruben Olin and administor	.50
to attending venue	.62
to one gallon of spirits	.50
to attending the court of reference	1.25
the court of reference fee	6.00

to one journey to the court of probate 1.25
to cash paid the probate court 1.82
to cash paid the printer 1.31
to cash paid probate court for order to sell real estate 1.16

1823
to one day attendance myself at probate court 1.25
to taxes paid the highway surveyor 1.00
to cash paid probate court and for the printer 1.80
to one journey to Halifax to pay Henry Houghton 62
to one day of myself at probate court 1.25
to one day of myself at probate court 1.25
cash paid to the probate court 17
to one day of myself at probate court 1.25

TOTAL $47.29

The account of Joseph Boyden, Administor of the Estate of Joseph Olin, late of Guilford, VT, deceased; the accountant charges himself with the Estate of the deceased as per inventory $681.96

The administrator hath paid debts to the amount of 460.41
Assignment to the widow of the deceased 98.85

12 acres of land adjoining the Homestead that hath not been sol, the title not being esteemed good $54.00
Deduct $50.00 in the sale of the land for the incumbrance of the widow dower 50.00
Cash paid the probate court 11.75
My own time and expense 35.54
Probate fees 2.13

TOTAL $712.68
[sic]

Signed - Joseph Boyden

Sworn to June 25th, 1823 before

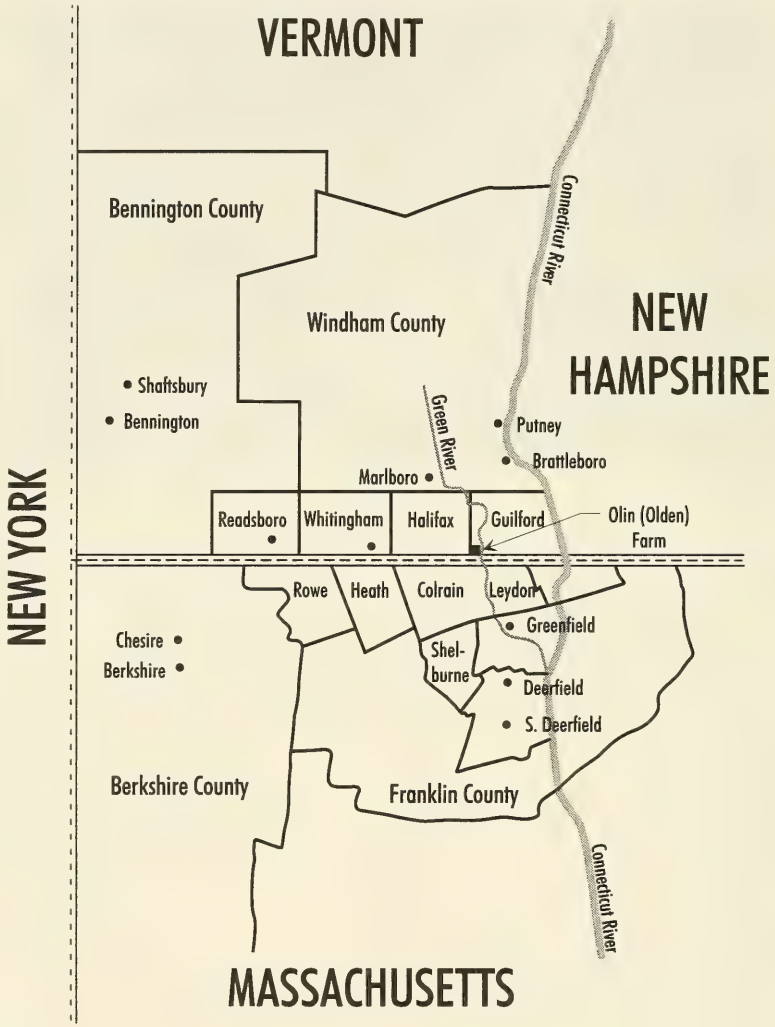
Lemuel Whitney, Judge of Probate

It appears that the widow Sarah and her 45-year old son, Reuben, had very little say in the settlement of Joseph's estate. She was living with Reuben's family on the original homestead. There had to be a

mixup of sorts over what belonged to Sarah and what belonged to Reuben. I believe, by the looks of the inventory that it was definitely an inventory of really what belonged to Joseph and Sarah; Particularly with so many references to "old this and old that".

—Photo Courtesy of Olmstead Family

Clayton P. Olin took this photo, ca 1924, of his father John F. Olin, his daughter, Ruth Olin, and his wife, Susie Mace Olin while they were sitting within the foundation of the house that Joseph and Sarah Olden/Olin built on Lot #173, Town of Guilford, Windham County, VT, ca 1787. Joseph's youngest son, Reuben, was the last Olin to have lived there.



OLIN (OLDEN) FARM AND ADJOINING TOWNSHIPS

Map - 6

Chapter 14

Sons: Phillip and William Olin

(to be featured in Volume II)

Joseph and Mary Aylesworth Olin's sons Phillip and William were both born in Exeter, Washington County, Rhode Island. Phillip, the older, was born 5 December 1742, and William was born 13 November, 1747. Considerable research is needed to bring their descending family history to the surface and find additional information on the total Connecticut Olin family, including the sisters: Wealthiam, Ruth, Anne, and Sarah. These six children accompanied their mother, Mary Olin, to Preston, New London County, CT upon her second marriage to Nathan Bennett.

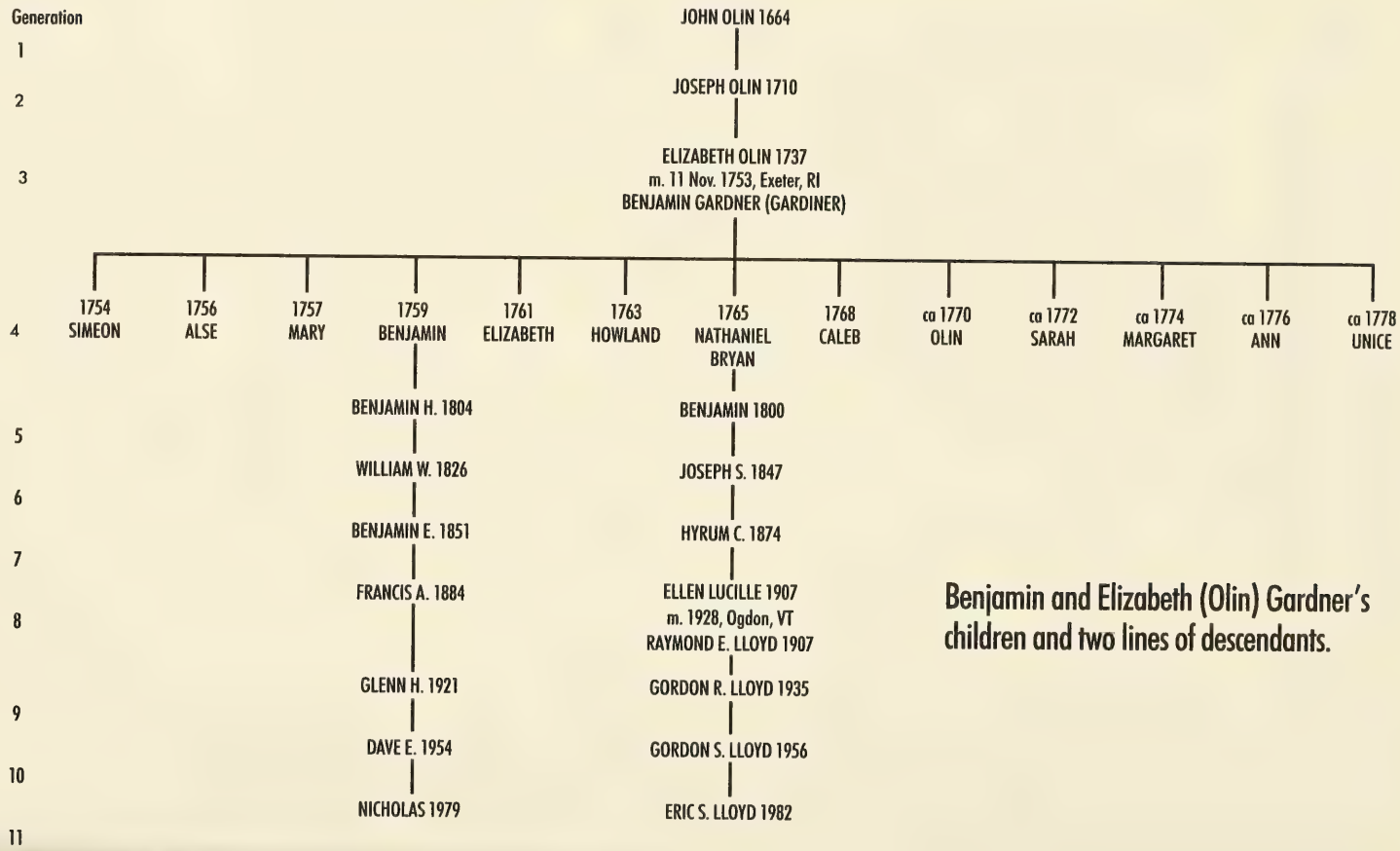
Phillip Olin was the oldest child to share in the division of his father's estate, and received 104 pounds, 9 shillings and 6 pence in December 1768. His wife of three years, Mary Green, and her brother, Caleb Green witnessed Phillip's signature upon the receipt.

William also received an equal share from his father's estate and played a major role in helping his mother to secure guardianship for her young children.

It is expected that continued research will yield enough information to justify a second volume to *300 Years of Joseph Olin and His Descendants*. Volume II will be devoted exclusively to the Connecticut branch of the John Olin(1) family and their descendants. It will be co-authored by Jo-Anne Fair Moriarty, a descendant of Phillip Olin, and this author. Volume II will also feature chapters about the past and future Olin kinfolk reunions to be authored by Thomas R. Olin, Genealogist and former Editor of *Olin News*, the Olin Family Society Newsletter.

CHART - 4

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS



Benjamin and Elizabeth (Olin) Gardner's children and two lines of descendants.

AYLESWORTH and OLIN Family Connections

Arthur AYLESWORTH
(First to Arrive in America)
Quidnesset, Rhode Island 1679
Mary Brown

Children

1 - Phillip AYLESWORTH
Rachel Green

2 - Chad AYLESWORTH
1 - Elizabeth Major
2 - Mary Wood

3 - Arthur AYLESWORTH
Mary Franklin
— Nine (9) Children

4 - Robert AYLESWORTH
Ann Davis
— David AYLESWORTH
Martha Franklin
— Three (3) Children
— Sarah AYLESWORTH
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN
b. 1740

5 - Mary AYLESWORTH
John Greene

6 - John AYLESWORTH
Dorcas Jones
— Eight (8) Children

7 - Elizabeth AYLESWORTH
1 - _____ Dolliver
2 - Peleg Card
— Mary AYLESWORTH
Joseph OLIN b. 1710
— Ten (10) Children
— Joseph OLIN/OLDEN
b. 1740
Sarah AYLESWORTH

8 - Katherine AYLESWORTH
_____ Green

9 - Martha AYLESWORTH
John Davis
— Anthony AYLESWORTH
Sarah Briggs
— Eight (8) Children
— Sarah AYLESWORTH
b. 1736
Henry OLIN b. 1719

10 - Thomas AYLESWORTH
(mute)

This Sarah Aylesworth was an old maid, the 4th wife of Henry OLIN.

PART IV — Joseph OLIN Family in Rhode Island

Reference Sources: Chapters 12, 13 and 14

Aylesworth Family History
Connecticut, Early Marriages
Franklin Family History
Hartford, Connecticut Library
Middleborough, Town of, Plymouth, Massachusetts Vital Records
Plainfield, Town of, Connecticut Vital Records
Preston, Town of Connecticut, Vital Records
Raymond, Philip A., of St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada
Scituate, Town of Providence County, Rhode Island Probate Records
Tillotson, Olin, of Richmond, British Columbia, Canada
Warwick, Town of, Kent County, Rhode Island Vital Records

PART V

Joseph OLIN/Olden Family in Rhode Island and Vermont

"Only your love and remembrance
Could give life to this dead wood,
And make these branches,
Leafless now so long,
Blossom again in song!"

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Chapter 15

Son, John Olin, The Vermont Sufferer

John Olin/Olden, born ca 1765, East Greenwich, Rhode Island, son of Joseph[3] and Sarah Olin/Olden had left home ca 1785 and purchased a large tract of land in the Town of Guilford in what was to become the State of Vermont. He was not satisfied with the results of the New York and New Hampshire dispute that set the stage for Vermont to become the 14th State in the Union. Because John's sympathy was in favor of New York, he was a recognized "YORKER," subject to the whims of the winning "VERMONTERS."

Governor Clinton of New York set aside a block of land on the Susquehanna River, west of the Catskill Mountains and 30 miles above the New York-Pennsylvania border. This land had been freed from Indian threats during the Revolutionary War by General Washington's orders to Generals Clinton and Sullivan, who made their destructive march through the river and lake lands of northern Pennsylvania and central New York.

The "Vermont Sufferers," including John Olden and about a hundred or so others, were offered land at very low cost in the new Town of Clinton, in the new County of Montgomery. The Town of Clinton was

renamed "Jericho" when it became a part of Tioga County formed in 1791, the same year that Vermont was admitted to the Union. Chenango County was formed in 1798, and the Town of Jericho was renamed again to "Bainbridge" as it remains today.

One hundred and sixty acres or one-quarter of a 640-acre surveyed Lot #48 was assigned to John Olden. The rest of Lot #48 was shared by Seth Clark and James Packer, friends of John in Vermont. However, the Olden name became Alden when the list was interpreted in Chenango County on the 1814 survey maps. During later land transfers and intestate records, Olden changed to Olen to Olin and has remained that way for John's descendants.

The records of John's indenture with the State of New York is in Book 1, at the Chenango County Clerk's office in Norwich, NY. The original record is of poor quality, and I have transcribed it the best I could.

Transcribed Records: Book 1, Chenango County at Norwich, NY

The people of the State of New York, by the grace of God, free and independent, to all whom these presents shall come, greetings. Knew ye, which we have given granted and confirmed and by these present, do give grant and confirm unto John Olden (injuriousness of two certain acts of our Legislature; the one passed the 5th of May, 1786 and the other the 20th of March 1788) all that certain tract of land situated in Lot #48 in the Township of Clinton, in the County of Montgomery (which lot is known and distinguished in a map and field book in our Secretary's office of that part of the said Township which is appropriated to the persons deemed by the Commissioner of our Land Office, to be sufferers in opposing the government of the intended State of Vermont) beginning at this NW corner of the said lot and from thence running along the west bounds thereof south, 9 degrees west, 20 chains. Then south, 87 degrees east, 80 chains to the east bounds, thereof. Hence along the same north, 9 degrees east, 20 chains to the north and east corner thereof, and then along the north bounds thereof, north, 87 degrees west, 80 chains to the place of beginning, containing 160 acres.

Together, with all and singular, the rights hereditament and appurtenances to the same belonging or in ally wise appertaining, excepting and reserving to ourselves, all gold and silver mines and five acres of every 100 acres of the said tract of lands for highways. To

have and to hold the above described and granted premises unto the said John-Oldin, his heirs and assignees, as a good and indefeasible estate of inheritance forever, on conciliation; nevertheless, within the terms of seven years, to be computed from the first day of June, next, insuring the date hereof, then shall be one actual settlement made on the said tract of land, hereby granted, otherwise, these, our letters patent and the estate hereby granted, shall cease determine and become void. In testimony, whereof, we have caused, these our letters, to be made patent and the great seal of said State to be hereto affixed. Witness our trusty and beloved George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of our said State, General and Commander and Chief of all the militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same, at our City of New York, this 12th day of January in the year of our Lord, 1789, and in the 13th year of our independence.

Signed By: George Clinton
Approved By: Commissioners of Land Office
Passed: Sects Office, 8th day August 1789 — Robert Harper, Sect.

When John heard that his name was on the "Vermont Sufferers" list, he ran, not walked, the five miles to Sarah's (surname not known) house to tell her the news. They had plans for a quiet wedding in the fall. But now, the marriage and their future took on a new and perhaps complicated meaning. It was 1786 (?), both John and Sarah were young. John had 300 acres to sell, and he had no idea of what to expect at his new location in Chenango County. Sarah reluctantly supported John's adjusted plans to sell his land immediately, and to leave next spring to see his new land, and build a temporary cabin on it, and return home in the summer to marry. Later, in the fall, both of them would travel to their new land.

He sold 41 acres of prime Vermont land to a Mr. Dray and the remaining 276 acres to William Shattuck for much less than he had expected. Land values dropped because so many families were leaving or planning to leave. This creating a buyer's market. In the spring of 1787, John joined several other "Vermont Sufferers" on their way to see for themselves what was in store for them. A few had their family and worldly goods with them, but most were either single men or a family man wanting to prepare things first before bringing his family.

Imagine what was going through their minds. Was their land on lush river flats, on sloping hills, or on steep and stony hills like those

in Vermont? Regardless of their location, it would be wilderness, calling for unending determination and hard work to clear the land and work the soil for a living.

David Culver, John's neighbor, asked him to join his group that included the Carpenter, Stowell, and Evans families. Earlier, Seth Clark and James Packer had asked John to travel with them. John convinced the two single travelers to help the family men.

The small entourage departed from Guilford Center just after sunrise Tuesday, 15th of May. It took five days to travel 80 miles west to the Hudson River.

As they passed through Bennington, Vermont, where the Green Mountain boys and the local farmers fought one of the most famous battles of the Revolutionary War, they paused to honor the heroes who had died ten years earlier.

Confusion and heated arguments erupted at the Hudson River ferry crossing because dozens of emigrants were waiting to cross on the small ferry. Rather than add to the Saturday night confusion, Henry Evans, the appointed leader of the group, decided to camp overnight and through Sunday. This would give them a day of rest and allow them to be first in line to cross on Monday morning.

The roads from Brattleboro, Vermont to Bennington to Troy, New York on the Hudson River and to Fort Plain west in the Mohawk Valley were reasonably passable for wagons and carts at the time. The military troops had cut wide swaths through the forest and routed the roads around major swamps and hills. More and more families were traveling westward, and the roads were being repaired and allowed entrepreneurs to extract toll charges. Such charges were in effect at the ferry crossing. If a family had no silver for payment, a half bag of oats or corn would suffice.

After a full day's rest and observance of the Sabbath, Evans led his group across the Hudson and headed west up the Mohawk Valley to Fort Plain about 50 miles away. Fort Plain was the crossroads for travel East —West and North—South. Upon replenishing their supply of salt, sugar, flour, and acquiring additional guns, lead, powder, tools, and changing their horses for oxen, Evans led his group of families on the road South toward Otsego Lake. The horses and wagons were sent back to Vermont or sold at the fort.

Apprehension prevailed among all the men and women when they

saw Otsego Lake. It is the headwaters for the Susquehanna River which flowed through their valley of dream farms. The men understood the necessity for water travel in the absence of any semblance of a road. A choice had to be made between buying boats and manning them, trying to navigate down the lake and the treacherous river or renting boats with experience oarsmen. The Vermonters hated to admit their own lack of experience with water travel. For the sake of their wives and children, Evans negotiated for the rental of boats and to pay for one oarsman for each of the eight flat bottom bateaus. The oxen carts were dismantled and loaded along with crates of geese and chickens, bags of grain, farming tools, building tools, food, household wares and goods. Two pigs and a bitch dog were squeezed in with the children. Each bateau had a piece of sail cloth that could be used to ward off the sun and rain when needed or for shelter when camping at night along the shore.

John and his two friends volunteered to drive or lead the seven oxen and three cows on the broken trail along the lake and along the river. They had refused to have anything to do with driving the two sows simply because hogs were slow and known to be uncooperative.

When the family group reached the southern end of Otsego Lake where the outlet formed the beginning of the Susquehanna River, they and their goods were transferred to smaller flat bottom boats. These boats were easier to navigate the narrow and shallow waters. During the Revolutionary War, General Clinton took advantage of the lake by building a temporary dam across the outlet. He made over 100 bateaus, loaded them with provisions and his 3,000-man army, opened the dam to allow the three feet of extra lake water to float his army with ease down the river to meet General Sullivan near the New York and Pennsylvania border at Tioga Point.

However, Evans and his followers were not that fortunate. On several occasions the boats became grounded. This necessitated removal of their contents. The boats had to be dragged over the stony rapids or gravel bars and at times carried around a short distance on shore. After five days of paddling and poling, they finally reached Jericho, known today as Bainbridge.

One week later, John Olden and his two companions arrived in Jericho with all seven oxen and three cows. One ox had an infected right hind leg from a bite by a wolf. Of all the wild and dangerous

animals encountered along the shores of the lake and river, predators like the wolf, bear, panther, and bobcat; wolves proved to be the most dangerous, particularly at night. After a couple of sleepless nights protecting the cattle and themselves from the circling wolves around their camp, the camp was set up early, usually in a small clearing. Whenever wolves were anticipated to be in their neighborhood, early set-up of camp was done. Grapevines were pulled down from trees to provide a rope for encircling the cattle into a temporary holding pen. Grass or leafy branches were thrown into the pen as fodder for the stock, and a supply of wood was readied at three locations around the pen. At the first sight or sound of wolves, the fires were lighted and tended by one of the three men while the other two slept with their guns close by. Each took his turn replenishing the fires and watching the wolves circling continuously in the dark shadows waiting for a chance to attack. It came on the third night of these elaborate preparations when one of the oxen moved out of the enclosure to browse on some leafy brush. All was quiet and fires were low. The fire-tender watchman had dozed off and the wolves sensed this. A wolf charged the ox; the ox turned toward the fire when the wolf bit its leg and bellowed loudly, arousing men and the rest of the cattle. In the excitement, the wolves disappeared, the cattle settled down and all was quiet again. No guns were fired.

It took two weeks of slow, deliberate walking to cover the 100 miles to Jericho. This time proved to be a healthy and companionable interlude in the lives of these three young men. Three of the four cows required milking twice a day. This provided them with more milk to drink than they had ever before experienced. A meal of sorts was prepared at the same time as the cows were milked. Seth Clark was an expert with his gun, and provided small game on occasion. John liked to fish and was lucky with his catch more often than not. That left the milking chore to Jim Packer, who came up with an ingenious method of making butter and buttermilk. He emptied their largest shot pouch into one of his shirts and tied it shut to keep the shot from escaping. A days supply of cream was added to the pouch and strapped between the horns of a willing ox. While the ox walked, the movement of it's head created just the right motion to churn the cream into butter. Fried cornmeal, fish, and game became a gourmet treat when made with fresh butter.

Only one ox and one cow were led with a rope. The others followed closely with one of the men bringing up the rear. They traveled single file on the old Indian trails where recognizable, and always kept the waters of the lake or river on their left.

John Olden was the shortest of the trio, only five feet, four inches tall, and also the strongest. His broad shouldered muscles gave him the advantage when wrestling one of the oxen to the ground. Instead of wrestling each other for trail sport, they competed by wrestling the oxen.

The people of Jericho welcomed them enthusiastically. Oxen and cows were badly needed and old friends were glad to see them. Of the half dozen cabins in Jericho, only two housed people who started with them on the trip from Vermont. Others had already gone on to their own land. The "Vermont Sufferers" families, bound together by their beliefs, were eager to start anew. John and his companions were also anxious to leave for their respective land, but first they had to deliver the oxen and cows to their rightful owners.

Great Lot #48, the lot shared by James Parker, Seth Clark and John Olden, proved to be on the far side of a large hill west of Jericho. Their small talk revealed apprehension as they plodded their way up the hill through the giant forest that rolled over the top and down the other side. It took two days just to determine the boundaries of their plots. Satisfaction reflected in their eyes as they shook hands, vowing to always remain good friends and neighbors. God had been good to them. A small year-round stream, later named Kelsey Creek, flowed southeast through the middle of all three properties. This relieved the need to look for a spring or to dig a well.

With their limited tools and passing season, it would be impossible to clear an area, to plant something and to build a cabin before winter. Therefore, their goal was to build a small windowless log cabin on each lot for temporary living quarters and for evidence that they had claimed the land.

Working as a team, Clark and Parker began cutting down trees while John returned to Jericho for a shovel, leather for door hinges, a saw, a few nails, a hammer, more cornmeal and possibly an ox. He was able to obtain everything except the ox. No one wanted to part with a working animal, that is, until he found Henry Evans, the leader of the emigrant group from Vermont. Evans listened to John's request for an

ox or team of oxen and felt obligated to help the lads because of their success bringing the animals from the north. Evans had two teams of oxen, one with the ox with the infected leg from being bitten by the wolf. Although the leg was improving, the team was not effective for Evans. He offered John the good ox from his team, warning John that this ox had never worked alone. John accepted it gratefully and promised to return the animal when he made his trip back to Vermont in the fall. Evans also provided a few seed potatoes, corn and rye seed.

It was late fall before sufficient land was cleared, some crops planted and harvested, and three small, one-room log cabins were built. Seth Clark agreed to stay the winter and watch over their interests. Food was plentiful and hunting game was his specialty. So John and James Parker started out for Vermont on foot, leaving the borrowed ox with Evans on the way.

The OLIN/Olden family in Guilford, VT were delighted to see John again, and questioning him until he fell asleep by the kitchen fire. His two youngest brothers, William and Reuben, were only 13 and 11 and William, in particular, was eager to hear all about his big brother's experiences. The next morning John headed for Sarah's home to finalize their marriage plans for December. The winter of 1787-88 was severe with a minimum of early snow and very low temperatures. Streams, rivers, and lakes froze solid by December and provided nearly perfect conditions for winter travel. More and more Vermont families wanted to relocate to the Jericho area, and John was anxious to return. Word got around that John Olin and his bride were going to join two sleds together with a long timber reach, build a box on it, load it with a dismantled ox cart, some furniture, some household goods, bags of cornmeal, oats, shelled corn, and other seeds, as well as all the hardware and tools that could be piled on for sale in Jericho. John planned to use oxen shod with special ice shoes to pull the tandem sleds on the ice and snow. By traveling on the ice on streams, rivers, and lakes, travel would require minimum effort. They would have an open highway with virtually no obstructions. They set Monday, January 17, for the departure date. Because John was familiar with the route, other Vermonters asked to go along. After much activity in preparation for the trip, seven other families were ready to leave with them. The previous spring, it took Evan's party two-and-a-half weeks of travel while John's party rode the iced highways in nine days. It was a

bitterly cold trip, but, by camping on the open fields of ice, danger from the wolves was nil.

Sarah was disappointed with the small, windowless cabin. She complained frequently about their cramped quarters while John busied himself cutting down more trees for logs and clearing around the big stumps for his crops to grow. Sarah became pregnant with their first son that fall, and insisted that the cabin be enlarged. John had hoped to hold out until a sawmill was set up reasonably close by so he could raise a two-story frame house. Instead he built an addition, twice the size with three windows.

All of their children were born in the log cabin: John Jr., ca 1789, Martin, ca 1792, Sally, ca 1794 (married William Allison), Charles ca 1796.

Sarah continued complaining more and more after the birth of each child. She was homesick for the comforts of life back in Vermont. It finally became apparent to John that something drastic had to be done to keep peace in the family and even to save his marriage. He had listened for 10 years to her lamentations about missing her family, having no close neighbors and companionship from other women. Over the years, he had accumulated well over $1,000.00 from sale of potash.

Like the rest of the Jericho families, cash in silver was received for barrels of potash sent on rafts down the Susquehanna River to the Baltimore markets. Potash was a man-made by-product of the wasted trees cut down by the settlers in clearing land for farming. Huge piles of logs, limbs, stumps, and brush were burned deliberately for the resultant wood ashes. Smoke from these fires could be seen for miles and the red glow prevailed at night. Potash was made by running water slowly through the ashes of the burned wood and boiling down the resulting solution in large open kettles. The residue was a white solid called potash because it was made from ashes in pots. A good grade was used in glass making, but most potash was used in preparation of crude soap at home and abroad.

In 1802, John purchased all the land, including a two-story framed house, owned by Benjamin Carpenter in Great Lot #73 in the Village of Jericho for $1,031.25. Henry Evans, John's friend, was the original owner of this property. Enough land provided basic food and meat for John's family, yet it allowed him time to work as a bagger in one of Henry Evans, Jr. grist mills.

Sarah was pleased with her new house, next door neighbors, women's organizations, the proximity to village stores, and being able to attend church. But most of all, she was pleased with the better school in the village than the one near their former farm. Her children would have a better education than she had received in Vermont.

John rented out his original farm until 1809 when he sold half to Andrew Aylesworth for $800.00 and the other half to William Newton for $790.00 in 1811. He recovered more money from the farm than he paid for the village home.

Meanwhile the village of Jericho was booming as more and more settlers moved into Chenango County. Village property was in demand. John and Sarah sold off 22 acres to Fredrick DeZeng for $350.00 in 1807. By now the recognized leaders of Jericho were: Major DeZeng, Benjamin Carpenter, Peter Betts and young Henry Evans.

At this time, salt was a precious commodity so that each family hoarded their supply and used in sparingly. The local Indians, it was rumored, knew of a close-by salt source but kept it a secret.

Wolves continued to plague the farmers' stock. When the state offered a bounty for evidence of a kill of bears, wolves and bobcats, some of the follows like Seth Clark became full time hunters and trappers and often made more money than a lumberman or a shopkeeper.

Early clothing was unstyled, made of locally grown flax or wool sheared from sheep. Furs and skins from animals provided a more durable material for footwear, outer garments, and winter protection. Sarah and her daughter, Sally, had their own spinning wheel and shared with neighbors in the preparation of the coarse flax straw for the making of linen material. Starch, if needed, was made from potatoes.

At age 16, John Jr. joined with a group of young men to become drovers. Their route was the Western portion of the Catskill Turnpike that ran between Unadilla, a few miles above Jericho, to Ithaca, at the southern tip of Cayuga Lake. Most of their drives were from the west to the east to the markets in the Boston area. While other drovers led and chased cattle, horses, pigs along the turnpike, young John became interested in driving flocks of turkeys. The wings of turkeys were partially clipped to retard long flights. This still allowed them to rise to overnight perches. To John, it was comical to watch turkeys drink water as their heads would bob up and down for several minutes. And

how they could run when spooked! Still they would roost at night and come together at his call in the morning.

It was the law of the state that all able bodied men, should, for a certain number of days, undertake military training. It could involve two days or two weeks, usually in the fall after crops were harvested, and always near a tavern. When the Olin family moved into the village, John and his two oldest sons were obligated to perform this militia training under Major DeZeng.

For a long time, John's favorite tavern was one run by John Davis on top of the West Bainbridge Hill, but later he changed his allegiance to the more convenient Jericho Inn in the center of the Village.

When he died in 1813, John was only 48 years old. His children ranged in ages from 17 to 25. John, Jr. and Martin were gone. Where? His daughter, Sally, was married with a home of her own. Young Charles, only 17, became the man of the house. (I have not found any further facts or history of this family as yet.)

At John's death, Cyrus Strong and Josiah Rice inventoried his personal property: furniture, kitchenware, bedding, clothes, lumber, farming utensils, tools, wagons, grain, potatoes, livestock, crops, and promissory notes totalling over $1200.00, not including cash or real estate. Son, Charles, was favored by his siblings and received all of the assets, including the remaining land with house. He, in turn, sold it all off to Mary DeZeng in 1815.

Chapter 16

Son, Joseph Olin/Olden, Moves to Whitingham, Vermont

Joseph was born about 1766 in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, the second son of Joseph and Sarah (Aylesworth) Olin. He accompanied his family on the move from Scituate, RI to Guilford, VT in 1780. He lived in the shadow of his older brother, John, until John left VT as a "Vermont Sufferer," relocated in the Town of Jericho, Chenango County, NY, 1787. During his maturing years, young Joseph wanted no part of the pretended State of Vermont's in-fighting for independent survival against New York State and no part in aiding the "New Yorkers" in their efforts to have the Vermont territory annexed to New York State. As a teenager while living with his parents, he developed his own opinions that would govern his future actions. He was adamantly against the use of violence to settle any issue, much like his father.

However, Joseph had a continuing urge to travel short distances and to explore the wonders of nature. Whenever his parents could spare him from his chores, he would ask his mother to pack him a bag of food for a two-to-four-day trip. People talked of several wonderful sights both near and far that he wanted to see.

He made a few trips, always by foot, to Branch Brook, a tributary of North River, that flowed through the center of Halifax. In the spring or after a freshet, this brook proudly displayed a spectacular quarter-mile succession of cascades or falls, each 15 to 20 feet high. To Joseph, it was a beautiful sight watching the sun's rays play with the mist of the falls, creating sparkling, miniature rainbows.

Other times, Joseph climbed the steep hills and banks along North River to reach a deep cavern, called "Woodards Cave" or "Dun's Den." This 25-foot deep 5-foot wide and 5-foot high cave had been carved by nature out of solid rock. He always carried a stout stick and approached the cave with deliberate caution, expecting any minute that a bear or perhaps wild cats would explode from within.

It took Joseph a week of leisurely walking to make a trip to and from Bellow Falls on the Connecticut River between Vermont and New Hampshire. At times, the eddy below the falls would be packed by thousands of shad and salmon eager to continue up the river to spawn. Unfortunately, the shad were not able to navigate the great falls, but the salmon were persistent and many were able to make their way up that formidable wall of water.

Joseph enjoyed camping out at night, gazing at the stars, watching the moon cross the heavens or listening to noises of the night creatures. If the weather was windy, cold or rainy, he enjoyed building himself quick shelters from hemlock or pine boughs.

During one trip to Branch Brook, he met James Scott who has settled in Halifax with his wife and five children. He told Joseph that when he was a young lad in England, his parents sent him on an errand. He was kidnapped, forced on board a vessel, and brought to America where he was sold to a family with money. He worked for them several years before his passage money was worked off. Mr. Scott was serious about his ill-fated experience. He considered it a thing of the past and now felt lucky to have a good wife .ve healthy children and his own small farm.

Joseph could hardly wait to reach home to tell his father about Mr. Scott's experience which was similar to Joseph's great grandfather, John Olin. His father related the story of John Olin's abduction by the press gangs off the coast of Wales, his servitude on board a British *Man-O-War*, his escape to the shores of America, his life with the Narraganset Indians and finally his established position in the Rhode Island Colony to become the father of the OLIN family. This family tradition, passing form generation to generation, perhaps at times embellished, would survive 300 years.

Not knowing that his first trip in the early spring of 1786 would be his last to the Halifax falls and cave , he met a fellow wanderer named Samuel Cudworth. Joseph was not yet 21 years old; Samuel was six years older; both appreciated outdoor life. Samuel took a liking to Joseph and invited him to his parents' home for the evening where Joseph sat across the supper table from Leah, one of Samuel's sisters. He experienced the dilemma of trying to do two things at once. He could either eat and not look at Leah or he could look at Leah and not eat. The very act of chewing his food stopped when both made eye

contact.

Joseph made many trips to Halifax that summer to visit the greatest of all of nature's wonders, beautiful, 20-year-old Leah Cudworth. They were married on August 15th, in 1786 in his parents' new two-story house at Guilford.

Note: Leah was a descendant of James Cudworth, born 1604, in Somerset, England, the first Cudworth to arrive in America. The Cudworth surname has had several variations of spelling over the years: Cutworth, Cudwith, Cutwort, etc. In 1884 a Cudworth family was farming 50 acres just off Green River in the Town of Guilford. The City of Brattleboro was home to Cudworth and Childs Insurance and Real Estate Agents. Also in 1884 Addison E. Cudworth was practicing law in Londonderry and another Cudworth farmer leased 320 acres to support his dairy operation in the Town of Townshend, all in Vermont

Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) Olin/Olden started their family of eight children with Betsey, b.ca 1789 in Joseph's parents' house where they were living. In 1791 his father finally sold 50 acres from his farm to young Joseph who promptly enlisted the aid of his two younger brothers, William and Reuben, in building a small house next door to his parents. Three more children were born in the new house: Caleb, born 10 May 1791, Hannah, born ca 1793 and Daniel, born ca 1795 before the family moved to Whitingham in 1796.

After Joseph purchased the Houghton farm in Whitingham where they made their home, Joseph bought a large parcel from Nathan Pelton and a year later sold most of it back to him. He also bought a sizeable farm with run-down buildings from George W. Dennison. It was on the Houghton farm that Joseph and Leah completed their family of eight with Johnathan, born ca 1797, Sylvia, born ca 1799, Roxa (Roxy), born ca 1802 and Electa, born ca 1805.

Both Joseph and Leah were members of the Baptist church in Guilford. They were disappointed that no Baptist church or even a Baptist organization existed in Whitingham. Neverthless, they attended all the churches in the Town of Whitingham, Whitingham Centre, Sadawga (known today as the village of Whitingham), Slab Hollow and Martin Mills (together known today as Jacksonville). They were

seeking a denomination that would match their Baptist convictions. Either their expectations were too high or perhaps the membership of the other denominations were not favorable in either accepting the Oldens or the Oldens accepting them. It was a frustrating ten years of religious tolerance for Joseph and Leah until late in 1806, the Town of Whitingham, in order to enforce and collect a church tax of one cent on a dollar that had been approved the year before, voted:

Quote: "Voted to form into a society by the name of the First Congregational Society in Whitingham."

When this combined society or church was organized by the town, most Baptists and a few others took exception by stating on the required certificate that they did not agree in the religious opinion of the majority in the town, and refused to pay the imposed town tax.

This infamous action taken by the Town of Whitingham board encouraged the "laid back" Baptists to come forward to organize their own group whereby they could worship God as Baptists.

Quote: "On the 8th day of September, 1808, a few persons assembled in the meeting house in Whitingham, and organized by electing Walter Emes, Clerk. They voted to send to four Baptist churches to assist them in forming a church of their own. The churches invited were of Guilford, Colraine, Heath, and Halifax."

By virtue of two meetings an ecclesiastical council was formed.

Quote: "Whitingham, October 18th, 1808. At an Ecclesiastical Council conveyed at the meeting house on the request of a number of Baptist Brethren in this place (viz) from the First church in Guilford, Elder Jeremiah Packer, Brethren John Noys and Joseph Olden —. Proceeded to examine the articles of faith, and covenant, and voted to accept them and the Brethren and Sisters that ascent and consent to the same are as follows.

Brothers: Joseph Olden (one of ten listed).
Sisters: Leah Olden (one of eleven listed)."

The Olden family was once again happy and felt free to worship as they wished. Although the Baptists of Whitingham could not support

the cost of building a church of their own, the problem of where to worship was solved by the Town Councilmen by an agreement to let the Baptists share with the Congregationalists half-time use of the meeting hall. However, 93 years later in 1902, the Baptists of Whitingham did unite with the Congregationalists.

When Joseph's youngest brother, Reuben, was married to Hannah Nichols in 1801 at the home of her parents, Samuel and Abigail (Houghton) Nichols near Guilford Center, the Olden family of Whitingham was invited. The reception was held at her Grandfather Houghton's tavern. The wedding turned out to be a three-day affair with Grandpa Houghton taking in Joseph, Leah and their six children. After the wedding, Joseph took his family to their grandparents, Joseph and Sarah, at their homestead for the rest of the week.

The eleven years that Joseph traveled during the spring to and from his father's maple sugar enterprise challenged the success of his own livelihood to support his family. True, his father paid him generously for his help, but, away from his family, his farm crops were planted too late to be profitable. After three or four years, he decided to abandon the normal farm crops of grains and corn in favor of popping corn. His was the only farm on a short dead-end road. It had some deep woods consisting of hardwood trees like maple, oak, ash, elm, beech and cherry. His cleared 40 acres were relatively level with good drainage, and faced directly south.

He had grown popping corn in his vegetable garden and was surprised how well it produced. Other nearby families complained that their popping corn never quite matured. If he planted on a large scale, would it be profitable? He gambled and planted ten acres the first year. The soil could be prepared later than for oats and, with the help of his children, he could start planting the corn seed by the middle of May. Sap season would be over, and with luck, so would any killing frosts.

The strategy proved to be moderately successful over the years; maybe even highly successful if family togetherness were measured. They all participated in the planting and harvesting of popping corn from dropping the kernels of seed in hills, to hoeing the weeds, to shocking the eared stalks, to shelling the ears. Shelling popping corn could be done in the comfort of a cozy home during the winter months. The boys could shell the hardened, sharp-pointed kernels from the strawberry shaped ears with their toughened hands, but the girls had to

be more careful. Everyone pitched in to ready bushels of popping corn for the city markets. Joseph's biggest problem was protecting his corn from rats and mice. Joseph became known around Whitingham as "Popping Joe."

Whenever a young fellow would visit the Oldens and show interest in her daughters, Leah would get out the wire-basket, shaker popper and pop bowls of corn. Upon request, she would heat some of the girl's grandfather's maple syrup to drizzle over the corn. What a treat to those aspiring young men!

Joseph gave up on the popping corn around 1815 when his land would no longer support growing it. Crop rotation and use of commercial fertilizers were not farming practices at that time.

As the Industrial Revolution flowed westward from the Atlantic Coast, it was introduced into lower Vermont around the second decade of the 19th century. Manufactured chair legs, chair spindles, chair seats, chair backs, chair rockers and other parts by independent small mills or factories became the fashion. These chair parts were made to various specifications to meet the requirements of a major finished chair manufacturer who would assemble the chairs and sell them under their company name. Top grade hardwood logs were in demand by local sawyers who were committed to supply the dozen or more chair shops in the Town of Whitingham. Joseph found a lucrative market for his stand of hardwood trees, a market that continued to flourish well beyond his death in 1830.

Leah's children enjoyed listening to their mother reminisce about her home town, Halifax. She said that much earlier, the town had very little currency to circulate and when the settlement reached 50 families, a town law was passed giving them the yearly option of holding a week-long (exclusive of Sunday) Fair or keep an open market at least one-day-a-week. The weekly market proved to be more popular until currency became available a few years later when annual week-long fairs took over. Both situations afforded the farmers and others the opportunity to trade or swap their goods, produce or livestock in lieu of sales for cash.

Leah told her children about the 1788 tornado or hurricane that leveled a two-mile wide swath of trees and buildings, west to east through Halifax. Fearful of another storm and recognizing the years needed for trees to recover, many families moved out of Halifax. She

and her mother watched the storm from their kitchen window as it tore their neighbor's barn apart. She told them that, shortly after the tornado, other families began moving into Halifax, so many, in fact, that it became a boom town without a reason. Halifax gained a reputation for its open drinking and reeling. Halifax reached its peak population of 1700 people in 1820. Leah wished that Whitingham could boast of the credible school system that Halifax had. By 1820, Halifax Town supported twelve rural schools of sound and tight construction, an elegant brick school house for higher education and a female academy for language and arts.

Leah had her own opinions on the subject of Vermont's Legislature. According to her, the towns of Guilford, Halifax, and Whitingham in Windham County and Readsboro in Bennington County cared little about the 1808 announcement of the celebration over locating Vermont's capital in Montpelier. The people of these towns and probably the majority of people from other town were disgusted by the way the Legislature operated. The decision to locate the state's capital in Montpelier took 17 years after the Union accepted Vermont as a State in 1791. The legislature convened at 14 different locations during those 17 years. It was difficult for the ordinary citizen to know where their capital was from year to year. Leah agreed with the neighborhood wives that if the State Legislators had acted more timely in their choice of a permanent location for the capitol there would be more reason for a celebration.

School houses in the Town of Whitingham in 1799, were deplorable. They were built only when pressured to do so. Some were very crude, uncomfortable for the teacher ad students all during the winter months. The Olden family lived in School District number 1. Apparently the Town Council was not willing to spend money on buildings to benefit their children. By contrast, the Town Council authorized a structure to be built for $34.98, stronger and better than any existing school house or church at that time.

> Quote: "March 3, 1806. Voted to build a Pound of Stone of the following Dimensions (viz) 30 feet squair Within the Walls, the Walls to be six feet high four feet thick at the bottom two feet thick on the top with a Squair timber on the top frame together with a Stone Post to Hang the Door or gate on with a hole drilled in the

Said Post for the Hinges to be set in, Said Pound to be Complet by the first Day of July next, Said Walls to be Handsomely faced on the inside and Decently faced on the outside to the acceptance of the Select Men." [sic]

No wonder Leah was upset by the school house conditions. The Selectmen were providing better conditions for stray cattle or hogs than they were for the children of Whitingham.

Leah was concerned about keeping her family well. Contagious diseases were prevalent and seasonal, often led to death. Bottled or patent medicines were thought to be inferior if provided by an American apothecary using his bottles. The druggist solved this problem by pouring his concoction into British labeled bottles. Most of the patent medicines concocted contained large amounts of whiskey or alcohol which, if taken in large enough doses, would numb the brain into thinking certain pain relief. Other patent formulas did work for certain conditions. Purges caused vomiting to "cleanse the innards" of fermenting green apples in the 'bellies" of young children.

The first Whitingham doctor to aid the Olden family was Stephen Tainte followed by Able B. Wilder. Dr. Smith, who arrived in 1821, gained the respect of the community as the most caring and knowledgeable doctor. As Joseph and Leah grew older, Dr. Smith made more calls to the Olden house, always sitting down to one of Leah's bountiful and tasty meals, whether at breakfast, dinner, supper or a midnight sandwich.

When Joseph was crowding 60 years old, he yearned for his boyhood days of carefree excursions around the countryside. Instead of walking, he used his horse and buggy. His first few visits took him to the largest body of water in the Town of Whitingham. Sadawga Pond took in 300 to 500 acres and held a 50-acre island which was said to float. This intrigued Joseph so much that he spent hours trying to confirm whether it was or wasn't a floating island. Finally, he was caught on the island when a raging thunderstorm came crashing in. He immediately took a fix by sighting in on three different landmarks on the lake shores. After the storm passed, leaving in it's wake dozens of up-rooted trees from the strong winds, Joseph again stood in the same spot taking another fix on the same landmarks. Nothing had changed as a result of the winds. Joseph concluded that the island was not a

floater.

Joseph found that the mineral springs water discovered in 1822 at the foot of Sadawga Pond was pleasant to his taste. Some people claimed that the water had curative powers. Joseph only knew that the water had a salty flavor with a peculiar fizz (carbonated) that tickled his nose.

His longest trip took him to the western side of Whitingham town, a distance of about 12 miles by road but only five miles as the crow flies. The Bishop family operated a lime mine and kiln adjacent to the Massachusetts border when they discovered veins of a strange looking mineral. The discovery was deliberately kept quiet until assays were complete. However, when Joseph drove up to the kiln in his horse and buggy, the Bishops recognized "Popping Joe" and extended him full courtesies. He was impressed with the limestone operation and asked to see the new mineral veins. Some of the grey material was quite soft, easily gouged with a pointed rock. Some of the material darkened quickly after gouging while some parts of it stayed shiny. The grey material was much heavier than ordinary stone. The sight and feel of this mysterious mineral kept Joseph pondering for many nights. He suspected but never knew that a few years after his death, there would be a half dozen lead and silver mines operating in the southwest corner of Whitingham.

Joseph concluded several real estate transactions between 1814 and 1826. One deed was to his son, Caleb in 1814; one was to another son, Daniel, in 1826; and one was to Amos Brown and another to Enoch Ellsworth in 1826. Two years before Caleb left for New York State, Caleb deeded some land back to his father.

Joseph and Leah were dealt a devastating blow in 1821. His father, Joseph, Sr., died in Guilford. He and Leah attended the funeral held in the Olin/Olden home, the Baptist church and the Stark Cemetery using his horse and buggy to convey his mother, Sarah, behind the black hearse carrying her husband and his father's body.

Later in the year, four days before Christmas, Joseph and Leah's daughter, Betsey died leaving her husband, Joel Jillson, with three children under the age of five. Joseph and Leah joined with Joel's parents to help Joel through the difficult times and to care for the grandchildren.

Joseph Olden passed away a few months after the 1830 US Census

was taken. No record of his death or surrogate action have been found.

Eight years later, on the 16th of January, 1838, Leah (Cudworth) Olden died. It is assumed that both burials took place in unmarked graves at the small cemetery in District #1, on a road marked #347, near a junction of a road that crosses a wide body of water within a small stream. This cemetery is within a mile of the Olden farm and is shown on an 1880 map of the Town of Whitingham, Windham County, VT.

After Joseph's death, his wife, Leah, participated in a few land transactions, In 1831, she deeded property to a daughter, Roxa Burrows, and received property from Clement Porter, the husband of another daughter, Electa. Her son, Caleb, living in Palermo, New York, deeded his last piece of property in Vermont to Leah in 1835.

All the transactions of land, taxes and what records were kept in the Town of Whitingham refer to the Olins and Oldens, consistently, with only a few references to Olin, Oldin or Owen.

The Joseph and Sarah Olin/Olden family in Guilford used the name Olin and Olden about equally. The sons, John, William and Reuben settled the question of the family surname within their generation by committing to keep the name Olin for their descendants. Brother Joseph decided to go with the name Olden which has continued through his descendants. However, Caleb, the oldest son of brother Joseph took exception to his father's use of Olden and committed himself and family to Olin.

Future researchers must be cognizant of the fact that the surname, Olden, is a true surname for it's own independent family that also had root in northeastern USA, particularly Long Island, NY and southeastern PA. Care must be taken to keep the two Olden families distinct during any future compiling processes.

Circumstances caused variations in spelling of the OLIN name, but whether we belong to the respective Oldens, Olins or Olans, we can recognize each as a big part of the OLIN family with pride.

Chapter 17

Son, William Olin, Migrates to Chenango County, New York

William Olin/Olden, born 28 November, 1773, East Greenwich, Rhode Island, son of Joseph[3] and Sarah Olin/Olden, left his parent's home in Guilford, Vermont, permanently during the spring of 1793. He had always been intrigued by the frontier life and adventures described by his oldest brother, John, and had visited John and Sarah at their farm in Chenango County, New York two years before. He had only the clothes on his back and a few coins in his pocket so he took three months working his way for meals and occasional lodging to the Jericho farm.

Although is brother and two young nephews greeted him exuberantly Sarah held back, knowing that William planned to stay in her already over-crowded house. But things have a way of working out. Seth Clark, John's neighbor who wanted desperately to go bounty hunting for wolves was visiting when William arrived. When he asked William to tend his farm while he was trapping and hunting, William gladly accepted and Sarah breathed a sigh of relief.

William was a restless young man with no idea what he wanted to do with his life. He hated being tied down by the work on this farm as he had been tied down at home. He craved companionship of others his age and a more exciting life. Nevertheless, he gave the Clark family a good day's work, seven-days-a-week, month after month, for two years before leaving.

He took a job in a combination blacksmith shop and livery stable in the center of Jericho. This was the gathering place for local people to discuss political problems, the merits of religion, the success or failure of crops, etc. William liked being part of this social community.

Frontier livery stables were dirty and reeked, no matter how well they were kept clean. The harness room smelled of sweat, rotted leather, smoke from tobacco, and the odor of unwashed bodies. The stalls smelled from both horse and human dung and urine.

William was glad that most of his work took place in the blacksmith's shop. Wagons and harnesses needed repairing. Horses and oxen needed shoeing. Horses were easier to shoe than oxen with their split feet which required a two-piece shoe. An uncooperative ox had to be thrown to the floor or raised off the ground by a sling.

After working another two years, David Pollard, a migrant from Norwich, CT who had settled on the east side of the Susquehanna River one mile below Afton in 1790, brought in two wagon wheels for repair. He liked William's hustle and the quality of his work. Pollard asked William to leave Jericho and come to Afton where his grist mill had washed down the river during the last flood. He wanted William to help rebuild the mill and make it operational.

Restless, William was more than happy to change jobs again. So, in 1797, William began working for David Pollard and promptly fell in love with Lucy, the youngest daughter of David and Polly Pollard. Lucy was their sixth child, born in Norwich, CT on 18 April 1780. William and Lucy's marriage is reported in *the History of Chenango County, NY* by James H. Smith, 1880, within the history of the David Pollard family. No date is given, but one can assume it took place in the year 1798 as their first child, Samuel, was born 2 July 1799. At the time of his marriage, William was still using the surname Olden. He changed the spelling to Olin about the time of Samuel's birth because he registered in the Congregational Church of Celicia with Pastor Joel Chapin, Town of Jericho, in 1801, as William Olin.

When the Pollard grist mill was completed and running, William expressed his desire to move on to something different. He was not only restless, but he was beginning to feel uncomfortable living with his in-laws. Pollard had leased additional acres and offered to build William and Lucy a house if William would continue in his employ.

Heth Kelsey had built a small sawmill at the mouth of Kelsey Creek, the same creek that flowed south through the John Olin/Olden farm to the Susquehanna River at Afton. Kelsey was reputed to be a hard man to work for and few men would work for him even for higher than normal wages. William went to work for Kelsey with an agreement that Kelsey would teach William the intricacies of the sawmill operations. He did learn a lot; the back breaking job of rolling logs up the skids in the yard to the saw table. Rough sawed timbers and boards were heavier than they looked when green and filled with moisture. It

required a strong, steady hand and technique to feed the log through the saw. Cut timbers and boards had to be stacked just so for effective drying. The saw teeth required even filing and setting.

William left the sawmill in early 1804 to work on the first bridge to be built at Jericho across the Susquehanna River. Major DeZeng handled the finances while Henry Evans, Jr., a respected and resourceful mechanic and carpenter, oversaw the building of the bridge. William was proud of his role as a carpenter in the building of the painted "Old Yellow Jericho Bridge."

William desperately avoided any farming activities; he preferred challenging professional trade or projects. Perhaps at Lucy's insistence, he earned extra money while on the bridge job to purchase a 20-acre lot with a cabin and a small sawmill, two miles west of Afton from David Church. Two miles proved to be too far away from the action in Afton so after the birth of their fourth child, Harriet, born in 1804, William put out the word that he would sell part or all of his 20 acres. David Goodenough responded by buying the portion with the cabin and one-quarter of the mill rights.

In 1805, William Olin and his family returned to Afton and temporarily lived with Lucy's parents, the David Pollards, who gave William a good deal on a piece of land on the west side of the Susquehanna River, just north of the Afton village line. It was a beautiful piece of land bordering on the river; 56 acres purchased for $200.00. William built a two-story frame house, and they lived there through the birth of their next three children.

Meanwhile, William joined the roust-a-bouts along the river in their logging operations. Thomas Humphrey assigned William to be a teamster hauling logs on skids pulled by a team of horses or oxen over land down the road that later became known as the "old plank road" between Afton and Deposit. At Deposit, the logs were stacked and tied together to form rafts which floated down the Delaware River to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. "Old plank road" was so named because of the numerous swamps requiring logs or planks to be laid perpendicular to the road. Deposit gained its name because it was the place to deposit the logs.

A year of continuous walking behind a team was discouraging to William. He asked to work on the river. He spent the next year or two building rafts of logs or rough cut lumber from red or white pine. Rafts

of this type could be floated down the Susquehanna River when the river water was high, usually only in the spring. When the rafts were being built they were positioned so that when high water came, the rafts would float free from the land onto the river. Scores of rafts, each manned by two or three men could be seen for miles when the water was right. Men would use long poles to keep the raft from being snagged or to help speed the raft along. A long sweep in the rear provided control for centering the raft in midstream. When the water became too low on the Susquehanna for rafts, the men were added to the overland route, Afton to Deposit, since the water of the Delaware remained fairly high year-round.

By coincidence, the lumberman, Thomas Humphrey's son, James V. Humphrey, later became the husband of Harriet, daughter of William and Lucy Olin's daughter. James continued in the lumbering business at Afton and later invested in and worked his crews in the forests of central Pennsylvania.

By 1812, the Jericho lumbermen had ceased rafting down the Susquehanna River to Baltimore for three reasons: the British had declared war on the Americans and controlled Chesapeake Bay, thereby endangering the lives of the raftsmen; the long walk home from Baltimore to Jericho; and, the new threat from gangs of robbers below the New York/Pennsylvania border who accosted the returning rafters for the large amounts of money they carried. Consequently, the trips were terminated at Owego, Tioga County, about 20 miles north of the border. The lumbermen received less money for their logs and lumber but were more sure of a return and the safety of their men.

On several of these trips, William and his companions, upon reaching Owego, would turn their rafts over to John R. Drake. He was a lumber manufacturer and broker who had the logs sawed into rough timbers and tie two or more rafts together before sending them down the river.

After receiving payment for the logs and lumber, the rafters would usually spend the day at Captain Luke Bate's Tavern in Owego before starting the long trip back home. They treated themselves to a steak dinner before retiring for the night. On one of their trips, they complained to Captain Bates that the steak was so tough their forks could not stick into the gravy.

In 1814 the Village and Town of Jericho were renamed as the

Village and Town of Bainbridge. A stigma had become attached to the name Jericho through rumors over the mysterious burning of the Congregational Church of Cilicia in Jericho.

William and Lucy bought and sold property almost as many times as William changed jobs. Sometime in 1814, William decided to buy 99 acres across the Susquehanna River from his home in Afton. He used borrowed money from Peter Betts, a wealthy community leader, who took a seven-year, $1500.00 mortgage against both the 99 acres and his home with 56 acres.

Later in 1816, William Olin and Reuben Tower became involved in a legal dispute that required a New York State Supreme Court decision. William won. He was awarded $1,280.00 plus $49.94 in damages and court costs. Sheriff Campbell of Chenango County collected and served all the required papers.

In 1821, Peter Betts decided to call in the mortgage from William because William had not been paying on the principal or keeping up the interest. Consequently, William lost both properties in Afton, including his home. He moved his family to a rental property in Bainbridge Village. Arron Owens, proprietor of a General Store in Bainbridge, carried William on account through 1835. The leatherbound account book kept by Owens detailed all customers' purchases and payments from 1805 to 1844. Butter, for example, sold for 12.5¢ a pound, year-around, and shoes from $1 to $2 a pair. Owens advertised, "You get what you pay for." A homespun, woolen suit with "good lapelled collar" sold for $10 and tobacco was 20¢ a pound. Owens was also a jobber or wholesaler, collecting potash, charcoal, maple syrup, apples, and such for the markets in the big cities.

William continued his restless ways, seldom working at any job for more than two years at a time. In his later years he worked mostly as a carpenter. When New York State authorized construction of the Chenango Canal in 1833, a north-south canal linking Binghamton to the Great Erie Canal, William took a job as a carpenter. This kept him away from home sometimes for months at a time.

Before the opening of the Chenango Canal, the people of Bainbridge could use the Susquehanna River for travel or shipping of goods downstream, a long and tortious route. Now they could travel a few miles over land to Oxford, where goods and people were loaded, south to Binghamton, or north to the Erie Canal for points west, east or south.

When the canal was opened for traffic in 1836, William had a pocket full of money. All his children had left home to seek their own life, except for his youngest, Edwin C., who more or less stayed home, to take care of his mother. Edwin wanted to be a farmer, unlike his father who found it necessary to keep on the go. But, William was now 63 years old and getting tired of his nomadic ways. William knew exactly where to buy a farm where he and Lucy could live out their remaining years and where Edwin C. should be able to make a success in a dairy farm operation.

While working and traveling along the canal route, William became infatuated with the lush flat land of the Genegantslet Creek area, three miles south of the Village of Green. He bought three parcels: over 100 acres; 33 1/2 acres; and, 10 acres all contiguous along the creek. The parcels had beautiful new and well kept buildings. This is where William died at age 71, Lucy died at age 77, and their son, Edwin C. died at age 79; all three were buried in a nearby cemetery called the Lower Genegantslet Cemetery.

William Olden/Olin in his own special way contributed to the community spirit and growth of the Town of Jericho/Bainbridge of which Afton was a part. His participation in so many of the occupational trades at the opening of the 19th century, particularly, his carpentering skills on buildings, bridges, mills and the canal is something that all Olins can appreciate.

Chapter 18

Son, Reuben, Stays at the Homestead in Guilford, Vermont

Reuben Olden/Olin, born 1775, was the youngest son and presumably the youngest child of eight born to Joseph and Sarah (Aylesworth) Olden, Town of Guilford, Windham County, Vermont. Being the last child, Reuben may have been privileged to receive a little more education than his siblings. He fancied himself an entertainer and philosopher of sorts. As any other last child of a sizable family, Reuben was considered the baby of the family long after he outgrew his diapers. Perhaps his sisters dressed him and played with him, and treated him as their own baby or doll. But as he grew older, he became bolder, recognizing his ability to manipulate his parents and siblings to his advantage, without losing their respect for him or his respect for them. He was often outspoken about his family's religious beliefs, yet he maintained an aloof tolerance by not participating wholeheartedly in their observance.

Reuben, more or less, followed in his older brother, Joseph's footsteps. He started roaming the nearby country when he became 16, not as a loner or intrigued by the wonders of nature, but seeking company of someone who would listen to his neighborhood tales, greatly exaggerated at times and thoroughly acted out.

His brothers had left home and his sisters were either married or about to be. He had helped his brother, Joseph, build a small frame house a quarter of a mile from their home farm. He was a hard worker and helped his father with maple sugar chores and other necessary work on their small farm. When he was home, he often helped his blind mother to clean her house.

By 1793, Reuben was 18 years old and beginning to frequent the local taverns. He recognized that his popularity and reputation had spread beyond the parlors of his neighbors. Reuben preferred drinking in moderation when socializing with his peers; he expected to be called

on for a profound saying or to give an animated rendition of a local story or a tall tale. He accepted many invitations to visit neighbors, often staying overnight after a full meal, several drinks, and an attentive audience.

One of his favorite stories involved the common house fly. Everyone enjoyed his dramatic version of how the fly walked upside down on a smooth ceiling or better yet, how the fly could defecate up on the ceiling, both acts defying Isaac Newton's Law of gravity. He thought the fly had the ability to walk upside down because of a sticky substance on his feet. He noticed that the fly stopped his walk occasionally to reapply the sticky stuff that it picked up from rubbing its feet across its mouth. Reuben could not explain how the fly defecated toward the ceiling except possibly the fly had an explosive bowel system. Reuben held his audience spellbound while acting out all of the fly's motions in animated fashion.

His repertoire included dozens of old sayings, such as:

As dead as a door nail - As white as a sheet,
As flat as a pancake - As red as a beet!

As round as an apple - As black as your hat
As brown as a berry - As blind as a bat!

As light as a feather - As hard as a rock;
As stiff as a poker - As calm as a clock!

As fit as a fiddle - As clear as a bell,
As dry as a herring - As deep as a well!

The last saying was quoted most often. If his host was slow in serving liquid refreshments, Reuben would emphasize the words "dry" and "deep." If a young lady was present when asked how he was, he would quickly reply,"Fit as a fiddle - Ready to play!"

Reuben was loyal to his parents; he reserved Saturdays for his weekly tavern visits. He managed to make an appearance at least once a month at Chase's Tavern and Houghton's Tavern in Guilford Center, Packer's Tavern in Packer's Corners, and the Hotel in Colrain in Massachusetts. Reuben was 25 years old in 1800 when he met the woman of his future. She was Hannah Nichols, granddaughter of the

Houghton who owned a tavern.

Hannah Nichols' parents were Samuel and Abigail (Houghton) Nichols who lived in the northeastern corner of Guilford Township in what was known as West Brattleboro, VT. Her paternal grandfather was a veteran of the Revolutionary War; he served under Captain Josiah Fish. He also contributed to the political turmoil as a "Yorker" in the pretended State of Vermont. One of Hannah's sisters, Abigail, married Philip Crosier of Halifax whose son, Abner, relocated to Susquehanna County in 1840, the same year that Reuben's oldest son, John moved to Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. The Nichols family has been traced back to 900 AD in England.

Reuben was instantly infatuated with Hannah's dimpled and rosy cheeks, her large innocent blue eyes and her infectious laugh. She was raised in a well-to-do family that provided her with an environment of ease, with servants in the house and hired men on the farm. Reuben was still living with his elderly parents. More chores were left undone year-by-year. He knew that if he wanted Hannah to share his future with him, he needed to become serious about supporting a wife and family as a man should. Although he tried to become serious, his natural desire to be the life of the party persisted and even more so when Hannah's twinkling eyes and laughter showed signs of encouragement.

One story in particular was Hannah's favorite. It was the typical story of the poor Vermont farmer trying to till the thin rocky soil of the mountainous country. Hannah was able to anticipate all of Reuben's gestures and language as he acted out his story while holding on to the back of a kitchen chair.

The farmer could not plow up hill because the plow would catch into rock. The farmer could not plow downhill because the plow would glide over the rock surface allowing the plow to overtake the team of oxen, endangering their lives. That left the contour or side hill method of plowing which created problems of a less serious nature. A farmer may have a perfectly matched pair of oxen when they stand on level ground, but the same pair appeared to change in size on the hillside. The upper ox had the advantage of intimidation over the lower ox by virtue of its apparent increase in size, therefore it held back somewhat on its pulling power. On the return trip, the lower ox changed to the upper side and had its chance of getting even. Reuben explained all

this as he held on to the back corners of the chair pretending they were the handles of the plow.

The handles of a walking plow were killers. A farmer had to hang on for dear life. If the plow bounced off a rock, the plow would hop up out of the ground. If deep soil was encountered between rocks, the plow tended to point down. This caused the oxen to stop, to throw the farmer over the plow handles. If the plow snagged on a rock or large tree root, again the team would stop, and throw the farmer over the handles. At the end of the day, a farmer may only recognize a few stray furrows from all the surface that had been scratched around tree stumps and rocks. A Vermont hill-farmer could never share the same pride in perfect plowing as the flatlanders. Reuben would end his story by claiming his hogs always prepared the soil for his corn by rooting through his orchard for old apples. His hogs saved wear and tear on his oxen and himself. Yet, he could not understand why his corn seemed stunted, and never matured. It was well fertilized with hog manure. Maybe it was the shade of the apples trees that prevented the corn from growing properly. Reuben's final act in this story would be two minutes of trying to rid himself of the chair that seemed to be glued to his hands. Needless to say, the applause would encourage Reuben to follow with another story.

Reuben Olden/Olin and Hannah Houghton Nichols were married in 1801 at the home of her parents. Her parents invited everyone from the neighborhood to attend the wedding of their charming daughter and the popular story teller. Hannah's grandparents insisted on having an open house reception at their tavern in Guilford Center. The wedding turned out to be a three-day affair. Reuben's mother and father, his brother Joseph and his family from Whitingham, and his sisters were in attendance. After the second night of performing surprisingly, mutual, vigorous, and amorous acts permitted by marriage, Reuben felt free to tell another of his stories that just might apply to his circumstances, to come in a few more years. The legal principles behind this story were facts in Vermont's earlier years.

When a widow was named Administratrix for the estate of her deceased husband and the estate was deemed insolvent, and she wished to marry again in a short time, the prospective husband would be liable for any debts incurred by her first husband. A way to avoid this responsibility was to change the women's appearance so she was

unrecognizable or appeared to be a different woman. It would not be a church marriage. The woman would retire to a closet with an accomplice who would remove all of the destitute widow's clothes, or either cut off her hair or alter it. The widow would slide her bare arm through a diamond shaped cut-out in the closet door. Her new husband-to-be would clasp her hand and exchange marriage vows directed by a local parson. Upon completion, the woman was dressed in a completely new set of clothes given to her by her new husband. She came out of the closet, usually dressed in finery of silk, satin, and lace, her hair arranged differently, and her head held high, knowing that she and her new husband would be starting a new life together without the encumbrances incurred by her deceased husband.

Reuben's brother, Joseph, understood Reuben's plight with no savings, little future planning, and seemingly lost in his good-natured living. Joseph deeded Reuben five acres across the road north of Joseph's home, hoping that by owning land, Reuben might begin to have confidence in himself. Later in the year, Joseph deeded ten more acres to him and, again, ten more acres the following year, 1801. Reuben now owned half of his brother's farm which was half of the original Olden farm. After Joseph and Leah moved their family to Whitingham, Joseph deeded his remaining 25 acres to Reuben including the land where Joseph had built his small frame house. By 1805, Reuben became land hungry and was in position to buy small parcels that were being abandoned by families who were moving into western New York State. Most of his dickering took place for land in Lot #180 on the east side of his father's original Lot #173. One of Reuben's proudest moments occurred in 1825 when he deeded land to his oldest son, John, when he announced his marriage plans to Ruth Culver. However, when John and Ruth decided to move out of Vermont to New York State, John deeded the land in Lot #180 back to his father.

Reuben proved to have a good business head and invested some of his land profit in a new distillery across the street from his grandfather's-in-law tavern in Guilford Center. The distillery specialized in sweet and hard cider and Black Jack brandy. Actually, Reuben was probably protecting his investment on the farm. After his father sold his maple sugar business, Reuben had planted a few hundred apple trees with the idea of shipping barrels of apples to the markets on the Atlantic coast. Unfortunately, others planted large orchards too, and the

markets were flooded with apples. This made the return to the farmer below the cost of shipping. Hard cider and Black Jack brandy were in demand year-round and proved to be a profitable investment for Reuben. He joked that his hillside orchards allowed the apples to roll down hill to a convenient gathering spot. The bruised apples were not good for shipping but they were fine for the cider presses.

When Reuben and Hannah were first married, they lived with his parents. After Joseph deeded his little house and farm to Reuben, Hannah insisted that they move to the little house where they could call their lives their own. They would still be nearby his parents in case of need. They moved in 1805, but not for long. Their oldest son, John, was born in the original two-story frame house of Joseph Olden, Sr. A daughter, Rachel, was born shortly after the move into the little house. She died two months after her birth, and she was buried in the Stark Cemetery. Her grave was marked with a small, flat, standing stone on which was engraved two letters: R. O.

Both little Rachel's mother and grandmother Olden were devastated by her death. Reuben convinced Hannah to move back to the big house where the two women could console each other. All of the rest of Reuben and Hannah's nine known children were born in the big house.

John Phelps established a wagon factory in 1810 in Guilford. Until then, popular conveyances on wheels were the two-wheel cart or a bulky lumber wagon. Phelps manufactured the first, truly comfortable, and practical wagon to be used in the hills of Vermont. When Reuben heard how well Phelps paid his employees, he was tempted to apply for a job. The War of 1812 shook up the Americans to defend their rightful northern boundaries and to supply the troops with supplies and equipment. Reuben worked for Phelps for two years as a common laborer; he quit because he disliked the confined working conditions. Hannah supported the War of 1812 by working with the neighborhood women to make blankets and socks for the local militia men who had marched from Guilford to Plattsburg, NY.

Hannah often wished for a large copper tub, a tub big enough in which to bathe. Only wealthy families could afford a tub of that size. Some taverns, hotels, whorehouses and barbershops had special bathing facilities to use for a price. Some people considered bathing to be unhealthy and dangerous to a person's body. Others relied on a water hole in a nearby stream or river, while others simply relied on sponge

Town of Guilford, Windham County, VT map indicating families living there during the late 1800s. The OLIN/Olden Family had left this part of Vermont during the mid 1840s. The three arrows at the bottom left show the proximity of the two cemeteries to the OLIN/Olden Farm.

baths and heavily scented perfumes.

Two years after the War, Reuben presented Hannah with a long copper tub, shortly before their seventh child, Sally, was born. It took lot of time to heat the water, carry it to the tub, and carry the waste water away. But to Hannah and her daughters, it was worth all the trouble. Once a week, usually on a Saturday evening, those who thought they needed a bath would share in the water detail and share in the bath water one at a time by adding some hot water between baths. Hannah kept a couple of small, pink, oval Windsor soaps on hand for her and the girls. The smell of the peddler's soap would linger for two days. The women preferred this soap for bathing rather than their home-made lye soap that could have a tad more lye than necessary and was harsh on tender skin.

Mount Tanbora, near the Island of Java in the East Indies, erupted in 1815, and spewed ash and dust into the atmosphere. This created a dramatic change in global weather. In the New England States, 1816 was the year without a summer. It snowed in June and several severe frosts occurred throughout the summer months. The farming communities of Vermont's steep hills and narrow valleys became even more discouraged during the five-year period between 1827 and 1832 when torrents of rain caused record floods and washouts. There were also dozens of forest fires and excessive snows during those same years. The unstable conditions created unrest among the New Englanders, and gave them another reason to consider migrating west.

Shooting of wild game and gathering of nuts took place in the fall. The chief competitors for chestnuts, hickory, beech, butter and black walnuts were the wild game that provided a different fare for the evening meals. While the older boys and men hunted turkey, pheasant, squirrels, and deer, the women and younger boys would fill baskets and gunny sacks with nuts as soon as possible after a hard frost. Butternuts and black walnuts remained in their outer husks which required patience to remove. Many families stored them in the attic until the husk turned black and hard. This made it easier to remove. It still was a messy chore, particularly when some of the husks turned to dark goo, infested with moth worms, or were spoiled by rats and mice attempting to claim a share. Instead of storing the nuts in the attic, Reuben's family chose the simple method of spreading them on a hard floor surface and walking on them, crushing the husks under their feet. This method

removed most of the green husk, but the walkers often lost their balance and fell down.

Reuben and Hannah's fourth child was Charles, who experienced the Lord's calling when he was 12 to spread the Gospel of Christianity. He also possessed an inventive mind. Charles fell down one time too many while shucking husks from nuts and caused him to use the Lord's name in vain. The very next day he visited the local blacksmith with a rough sketch of special strap-on metal spiked soles with serrated edges to fit over his shoes. The blacksmith made a pair for Charles who, after demonstrating them, never wore them again. The spiked soles worked reasonably well for shucking, occasionally sticking into an end of the hard inner shell. However, Charles's mother forbade their use on her kitchen floor because they punctured the wood floor.

Reuben picked up witch stories from the clientele in Packer's Tavern. Several of his stories involved Guilford's witch, "Old Mother Honeywell", and her antics. In one of his stories he told about his neighbor, Burrows, who had purchased a new pair of sheep shears. Burrows laid them wrapped in paper on a closet shelf. A few days later, Burrows took them down to show a friend only to find them looking rusty and old. He put them back on the shelf thinking he had been cheated. A week later, another friend who had heard of the incident asked to see the shears. To Burrows disbelief, the shears were bright and shiny, as good as new. "Old Mother Honeywell" had been busy again.

In 1821, the Town of Guilford completed building their first official Town Hall. It was still being used for general elections 150 years later. Reuben Olin was among the first to participate in elections held in the new hall.

Reuben and Hannah's last child, Lucinda, born in June, 1820, made a total of nine children, eight of which were living. Theirs was a happy family. Grandpa and Grandma Olden still shared their house with Reuben's growing family. Hannah accepted her position with the old folks with dignity, and shared her love with them. As the Olin children grew older, they were destined to make their own mark in the 19th century.

John was the first to leave home. He married Ruth Culver, daughter of Joshua and Irene Culver, who lived on a nearby farm. John and Ruth set up housekeeping in 1826 on the small parcel deeded to him by

his father. Three years later they moved to Johnsburg, at the head waters of the Hudson River in Warren County, NY.

Rachel, as mentioned earlier, died as an infant and was buried in the nearby Stark Cemetery.

Daughter Nancy was a natural homemaker right from the start. She became the best helper to her mother and particularly her grandmother who had been blind for so many years. Nancy began hand-sewing odd bits and pieces of old worn out calico dresses at age four. As she grew older, her mother taught her to cut and baste bed quilt blocks and sew them into a cover. Girls were expected to finish at least one quilt for her marriage bed. Nancy had worked on many quilts for other family members an failed to have her own marriage quilt ready in time. Her mother let the neighborhood know that Nancy had a problem. Would the young girls come to Nancy's aid? Seven young ladies responded and tied off her beautiful quilt in three hours. In gratitude, Nancy presented her husband-to-be Arad Shearer of Colrain, Massachusetts to the girls who helped her. They were married on the 8th of November 1835.

The Shearer family were early settlers in the eastern section of the Town of Colrain. Colrain has it's own unique history of three forts to ward off Indian attacks and was noted later primarily for manufacture of cotton materials. Unlike the Olin family, some of the Shearer family remains in Colrain today. Two Shearer brothers each have adjoining farms, one being the traditional dairy farm and the other a fruit stand and restaurant supported by huge apple orchards.

Charles, as we explained before, found his purpose in life in propagation of the Baptist faith. He became a young, traveling, circuit preacher in the northern mountains of New Hampshire. He apparently strayed into the State of Maine for no reason other than to marry a young maiden by the name of Betsy Mann.

Daughter Ruth was born five years after the death of her infant sister, Rachel. An exact copy of her sister, she immediately became the darling of the family. As she blossomed from puberty into a young lady, she looked more and more like her mother, who had retained her girlish complexion and figure. Fate intervened and Ruth died the day before Christmas, 1828, when she was 18 years old. It is interesting to note that old almanacs listed the meanings of given names. The three names beginning with the letter "R" in Reuben's family were:

Reuben - meaning Son of Vision
Rachel - meaning A Lamb
Ruth - meaning Beauty

Reuben and Hannah buried Ruth in the Olden/Olin plot of the Stark Cemetery about a half-mile north of their home. It is presumed that Reuben's parents, Joseph and Sarah (Aylesworth) Olden, were also buried in this same cemetery. The Olden/Olin plot has evidence of nine markers indicating graves. Most are simple field stones with no identification. Rachel's stone is a small flat upright with deep initials engraved: R. O. The marker indicating Ruth's grave is large with expensive engravings. It reads:

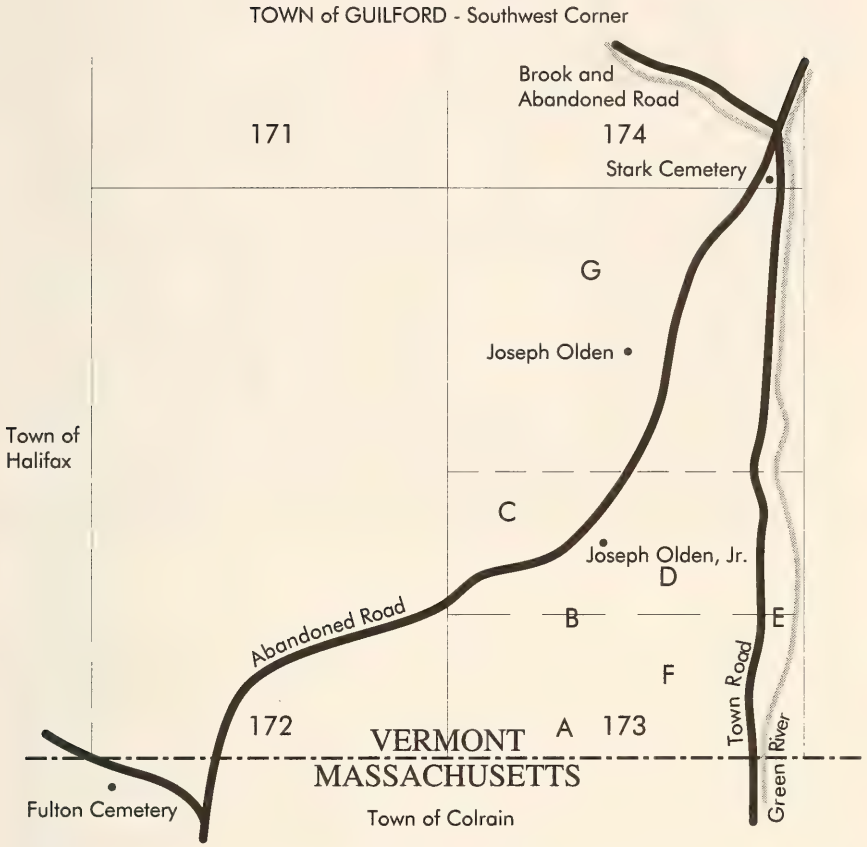
In memory of
RUTH OLIN
dau. of REUBEN & HANNAH
OLIN, who died Dec. 24
1828 in her 19th year
She sure of stedfast hope to rise
A mansion in the skies
A Christian her life laid down
The cross exchanged for a crown.

The Stark Cemetery is not a large cemetery, having basically six family plots with room for 12 burials. Other families here were: Collins, Wallace, Williams, and Stark who may have had a double plot. A three-and-a-half foot dry laid stone wall encompasses the cemetery, and two tall stones with embedded irons for gates flank the opening to the road on the west side. That road leads to the old Olden/Olin homestead. A large stand of sugar maple trees completely covers the cemetery and hide it from the Green River Road.

Sally, another daughter, married John Dilworth ca 1830.

Sons, George and Calvin, and their sister, Lucinda, were three of the last four children. Their ages were within eight years of each other. They and Sally were treated differently than the older children. these four were born after darling Ruth's death and consequently failed to receive as much attention and devotion from Hannah. With the exception of Sally, the three, George, Calvin and Lucinda were bonded together, were perhaps aware of their mother's mixed joy and grief over

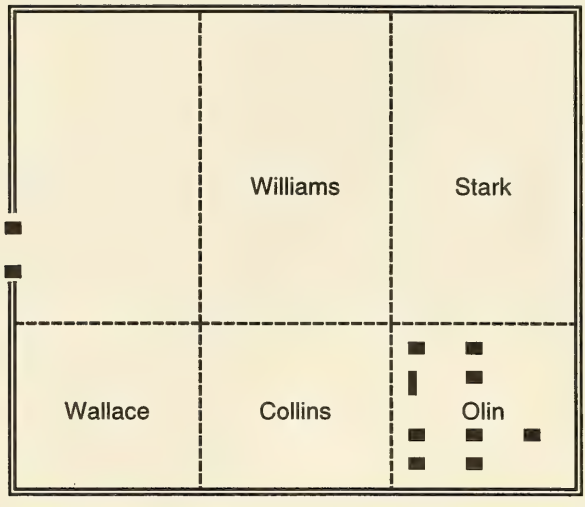
Olin/Olden Farm Land Transfers



Each numbered plot originally 100 acres

A - 1786 Joseph Olden bought 100 acres, Lot #173 from Stafford.
B - 1791 Joseph Olden deeded south 50 acres to Joseph Olden, Jr.
C - 1800 Joseph Olden, Jr. deeded 5 acres north of road to Reuben Olden.
D - 1800 Joseph Olden, Jr. deeded 10 acres to Reuben Olden.
E - 1801 Joseph Olden, Jr. deeded 10 acres east of road to Reuben Olden.
F - 1805 Joseph Olden, Jr. deeded remaining 25 acres to Reuben Olden/Olin.
G - 1822 Joseph Olden estate deeded north 50 acres to Reuben Olin.
H - 1826 Reuben Olin sold 25 acres north quarter lot he lived on to Amos and Joseph Gallup.
I - 1841 Reuben Olin sold 75 remaining acres to sons, George and Calvin Olin.
J - 1843 George and Calvin Olin sold 75 acres to Samuel Stafford, 2nd.

This farm continued to be known as the Reuben Olin Farm.



Plot identification of the Stark Cemetery located off Green River Road, 1/2 mile north of the MA and VT border. The marks on the left represent the stone gate posts facing the abandoned road to the OLIN/Olden Farm.

	Stafford	Fulton
Stafford	Stafford	Fulton
? Olin	Franklin	

Plot identification of the Fulton Cemetery located about 1,000 feet west of the New County Road, Town of Colrain and 1/4 mile south of the MA and VT border.

her two daughters. So it came to be that the three left home together, and made their way to the Charlotte River Valley in Delaware County, NY and eventually to points further west. George married Mary E. Turner and had children enrolled in one of the Davenport schools in Delaware County. Calvin married Ruth Ann Cook and took title to a farm near Davenport and shared his home with Lucinda. Lucinda married David Wyman.

Reuben's father died in June 1821 at his home in Guilford. Sarah Olin, his widow, pleading blindness, declined administration of the estate through Probate Courts. The court appointed Joseph Boyden as Administrator. Reuben submitted a claim for $380.88 plus back taxes he had paid of $10.94. Reuben was deeded possession of the north half, 50 acres, of Lot #173. His mother was awarded sole possession of the personal estate that remained after court costs were satisfied. Rueben was in a fine position to take care of his mother until she died sometime around 1838. She was presumed to be at least 90 years old. Reuben's wife, Hannah, died about the same time, but no record for confirmation has been found. The last conceivable date that we believe Hannah was alive was shortly after her daughter, Ruth's, death because of the large engraved stone set on her daughter's grave. There is no mention of Hannah's existence after that time in any family letters or official recorded actions.

In 1825, the Erie Canal was opened and linked the Great Lakes farms with markets on the East coast. An attempt to navigate the Connecticut River by steamboat in 1827 failed. This kept shipping costs very high for the Vermont farmer. Odds were against these mountain farmers although their dairy products such as butter and cheese, ranked number one in quality at the Boston, New York and Philadelphia markets. The high cost of shipping was not the only problem facing the tired farmers. Depletion of nutrients and lime in the soil, cows suffering from bone disease, failure of adequate crops of hay, corn, grain and potatoes were discouraging factors to a farmer who needed to support his large family. This combination of poor land and large families created perpetual readiness to migrate west when conditions reached the hopeless stage. The rich soils and cheap land of the west were highly publicized by promoters who may have stretched the truth. Nevertheless, thousands of eastern farmers left to seek a better life in the west while others only moved a short distance to farms vacated by the more adventurous migrants. The short trip to Delaware County, NY, found George, Calvin and Lucinda established within a two day's journey from their aged grandmother and their father in Vermont. They lived here for a few years before moving on to

Wisconsin after the old folks in Vermont died. Their oldest brother, John, continued to favor the rocky, steep, handicapped farms of the eastern mountains by moving from Warren County, NY to Delaware County, NY to Susquehanna County, PA in 1840 where he became a successful farmer. The population of Guilford, VT dropped by 50% from 1791 to 1840. The census of 1840 did not show any of the OLIN/Olden families living in the Town of Guilford.

For reasons known only to Reuben, he joined a group of six other local families and raised $10 to purchase a small plot of ground across the border in the Town of Colrain, Massachusetts from Stuteley Stafford ca 1832 to be used as a burying ground. Perhaps he had visions of his family remaining nearby and thoughtfully provided them with additional burying grounds. The title to this cemetery, called the Fulton Cemetery, was not cleared until 1834 when Stafford died.

The last years of Reuben Olin's life is a mystery. One family letter stated that Reuben Olin lived in his deceased father's homestead, Guilford, VT, and died while on a trip to New York State. Another family letter said that Reuben died ca 1834 in New York State by drowning. Yet another letter claimed that Reuben Olin left Vermont ca 1834 and settled in New York State and was accidently drowned. All three of these letters have Reuben in New York State at the time of his death. Two letters give 1834 as the year of his death and tell of his drowning accident. The questions arise as to where and when in NYS. Delaware County seems to be the logical location because in 1834 three of his sons and Lucinda were living there. It is doubtful that Reuben moved to New York State simply because his aged mother was still alive back in Guilford, unless she was living with one of her nearby daughters. On the other hand, Reuben may not have died in 1834. It is recorded that Reuben Olin deeded 50 acres to his sons George and Calvin in 1841. The deed was not a part of any of Reuben Olin's estate actions. Again, there is no mention of Hannah, Reuben's wife. Therefore, the circumstances of both Reuben and Hannah's death remain a mystery. One can assume, however, that both are buried in the Stark Cemetery in the Town of Guilford, and lay in peace alongside Joseph and Sarah and at least two of their daughters.

Chapter 19

Four Unnamed Olin Daughters

Someday a lucky OLIN family researcher will find the answers to the identity of Joseph(3) and Sarah (Aylesworth) Olin/Olden four possible daughters. In my research failure, three given names have appeared on a few occasions in correspondence between family members. Names that have the potential of being the daughters and sisters. They are Nancy, Silvia (Sylvia), and Esther.

Sylvia seems reasonable by the fact that Joseph(4), a brother, and Leah named one of their daughters, Sylvia.

Some of us believe that Nancy was another daughter of Joseph(3), and Sarah and a sister to young Joseph(4) and Reuben(4), who married Hannah Nichols, having a daughter named Nancy.

Esther has only a remote possibility of being named after another Esther in the OLIN family. Gideon Olin, son of John, born 1712, was a second cousin to Joseph, the father of Esther. When he married a second time to Lydia Pope, they named one of their daughters Esther a few years after our Esther was born.

Did Joseph OLIN have any daughters? If so, how many? What were their names? When and where were they born? Who did they marry? Did they have any children? The questions go on and on.

Past correspondence between Clayton P. Olin of New Hampshire during the 1930s and 40s and Florence Olmstead of Owego, NY and George Olin, my father, from both sides of the NY/PA border suggested that there were four unnamed sisters to Clayton's great-grandfather, Reuben, and Florence and George's great-great-grandfather, also named Reuben. Possible husbands were named for the sisters with no information or data to back them up. Two of the sisters supposedly married two William brothers, Davis and Singleton. It was said that one sister married Peter Packer and the other married Michael Whiting.

Correspondence with Shirley Minnich of Orlando, FL suggests that an Esther Olin married Davis Williams, Sr. father of Davis, Jr., whose brother was Singleton. She also lists children for Davis Williams, Sr., and for Singleton Williams whom she feels married Nancy Olin. Her source may be questionable and she has not been able to establish date of marriages or the actual names of the Williams' wives.

The Williams family was a large family, not all related in America,

but who may have been in England. Some unrelated Williams families were living in Windham County at the same time as our OLIN family. Still, we have not found any proof of any marriages between these families.

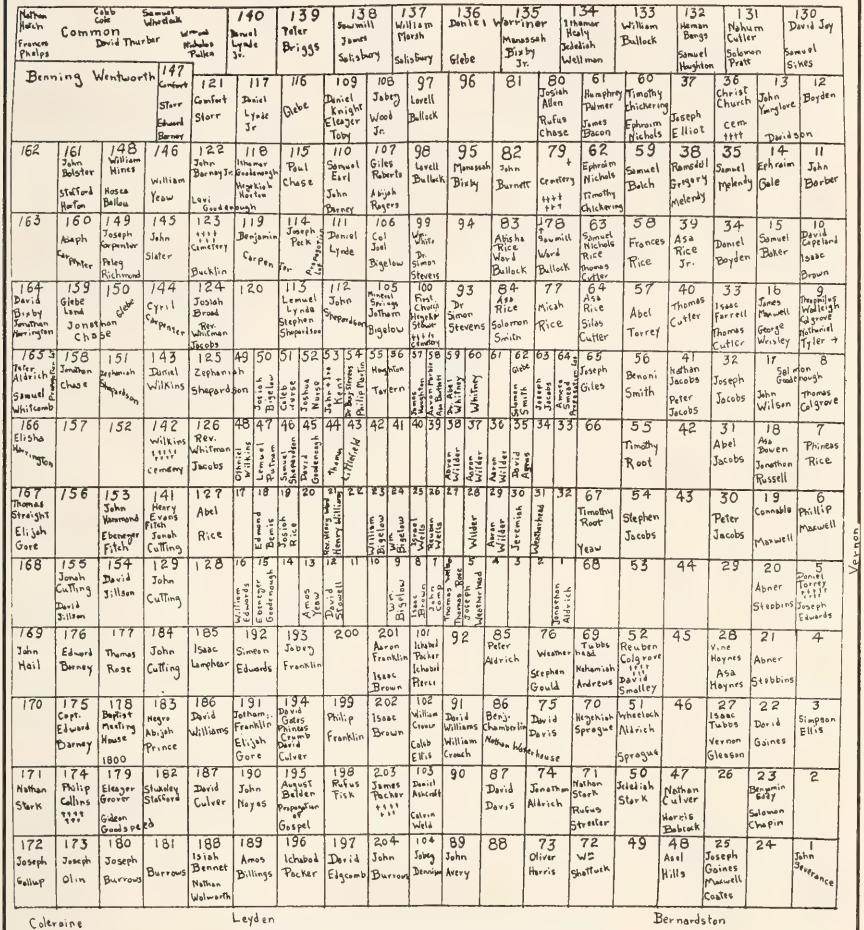
As far as Michael Whiting becoming a husband of an Olin girl, that seems to be reasonable. He belonged to the Whiting family which had been awarded a sizable grant in the western edge of Windham County and the Town of Whitingham was named for this family. The OLIN family lived in Windham County, VT in the same years as the Whiting family.

Peter Packer also could have been a husband to one of the sisters since he lived only one-and-half miles away in a small settlement called Packer Corners.

So, there you have it! Were any of these young men, Peter Packer, Michael Whiting, and the Williams brothers, Davis and Singleton the husbands of the four unknown daughters of Joseph and Sarah Olin/Olden?

Research into the families of these four men has not revealed information to substantiate any marriages between theirs and ours, but we will keep trying. This is one of the many challenges facing future Olin researchers.

Refer to Chart #2 for family descendants.



A plan of Guilford, drawn by Nathan Dwight, surveyor, in 1765, showing the original 50-acre and 100-acre lots. The names of many of the earliest settlers have been added, according to the best information available in existing records.

Note: The Joseph[3] Olin/Olden and later known as the Reuben[4] Olin/Olen homestead in Lot #173; David Culver, grandfather of Ruth Culver, wife of John[5] Olin in Lot #187; David Jillson, father of the Jillsons who married into the Joseph[4] OLIN/Olden family in Lot #154; the Houghton Tavern in Lots #55-56 and the Samuel Nichols partial Lot #63, both grandfathers of Hannah Nichols, wife of Reuben[4] OLIN/Olden.

PART V — Joseph OLIN/OLDEN Family in Rhode Island and Vermont

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PART VI

Joseph Olden Family in Whitingham,Vermont

"They lived a hundred years ago,
Dark-frowned and frocked, and yet I know
They were, in spite of what books say,
Much like people are today:
They loved and hated, rose and slept:
When things were difficult, they wept.
Though this idea may appear
Strange to some, they seem so near:
Their shadows grace the cloudless sky,
Almost as real as you and I!"

—Lucille Grippe Maharry

Chapter 20

Son, Caleb Olin's, Migration through New York to Michigan

Caleb Olin was born May 10, 1791 to Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) Olden, in his grandfather's house in the Town of Guilford, Windham County, VT. Later, Caleb recognized the continuing error perpetuated by his father and grandfather — the changing of the surname to Olden from Olin. During his teen years and young adulthood, Caleb pleaded with his father to change the family name back to Olin. His pleas fell on deaf ears. Caleb's most convincing arguments were his two uncles who had already changed their last name from Olden back to Olin. The uncles were his father's brothers, John and William, who had settled in Chenango County, New York. When Caleb came of age, he was voted a freeman under the name of Caleb Olin. He and his descendants have since continued with the Olin name, the only child of Joseph and Leah Olden to do so.

Caleb received the schooling available in Guilford and in Whitingham when his parents left Guilford to live on the Houghton

farm in Whitingham, both places in Windham County, VT. His parents raised him in the Baptist faith. He supported his father's efforts on the farm and often, in the early spring, helped his grandfather with his maple sugar enterprise.

When Caleb was voted a freeman by the Whitingham Town Council, 1812, the same year that the British were making another attempt to regain control of the United States, he was just 21 years old. The northern border of the United States was generally recognized to be the St. Lawrence River. This left the Great Lakes particularly vulnerable to British invasion. The United States was unprepared and lacking a trained army or navy of consequence so had to rely on local and state militias. Caleb was selected from the Whitingham militia to fill a position in a newly formed special artillery company composed of men over six feet tall. It is debatable whether Caleb actually participated in his country's defense. The tide of the short war between the British and the United States turned in favor of the United States when Commodore Oliver Perry defeated the British in Lake Erie.

In 1812, Caleb's father deeded some land to Caleb. After he was released from service, Caleb found local work as a laborer and in his spare time worked at building his own house. It took him five years to complete his house and to convince the woman of his choice to share a lifetime together. Caleb Olin married Belinda/Melinda Daniels in 1817 and she set up house-keeping immediately. Belinda Daniels was born about 1800 in Connecticut. She was a healthy, eye-appealing, robust woman, who presented her husband with eleven known children.

It is interesting to note how taxes on property in the Town of Whitingham appeared on the tax rolls. The land Caleb received from his father was taxed $20 in 1812 which rose to $51.75 in 1819 while his father's farm, taxed at $90.50 in 1812 decreased to $63.25 in 1819. It is obvious that Caleb's increase was due to the addition of his house. Was Joseph's decrease due to neglect on his part?

After the birth of Caleb and Belinda's third child, Caleb began to share the feelings of some of his neighbors about selling out and relocating on some of the promised land in the west at Ohio. At the same time, Caleb was developing an annoying cough which at times affected his work. Belinda shared her husband's desire to move to the western frontier thinking that it might help his cough. The stalwart, understanding Belinda believed that a man should expect his wife to support him at whatever he did. Belinda's philosophy, "When the

kingfisher flies over the sea and becomes exhausted, his mate places herself beneath him and bears him along on her stronger wings."

In 1828, Caleb sold some of his property in Whitingham and started his family on the long trip to the Northwest Territory of the United States. He drove his team of horses and heavily loaded wagon into New York State, crossed the Hudson River and followed the well-worn turnpike between Albany and Buffalo. By the time the Olin family skirted Oneida Lake, Caleb's cough had caused them to stop several times until it subsided enough for him to press on. They stopped at a tavern near Fort Brewerton at the west end of Oneida Lake. Caleb headed for the bar to replenish his bottle of cough syrup: blackberry brandy. He listened with interest to conversation about decent farm land being available a few miles north of Fort Brewerton. Upon inquiring, he was told that thousands of acres of a Great Swamp had recently been opened. The swamp was said to have hundreds of acres of highly tillable land on several ridges that ran through it. Some of the land was still for sale and some early land owners were looking for families to work farms on shares. Caleb experienced his worst bout of coughing as he left the bar.

Admitting defeat was not in Caleb's mind. He had reached the point where he had to make a decision. Should he continue on west or turn north to the nearby Great Swamp? His cough was getting worse, his wagon wheels needed repair, and the trip so far had cost him more than he had expected. The possibility of working a farm on shares sounded good in light of his dwindling resources and health. Belinda agreed with Caleb to follow the Oswego River north to Fulton and turn east into the swamp and hope for the best.

The next evening the Olin family reached the tiny Village of Volney where Caleb made his inquiries. He found a farmer who was looking for a working family and had a small log cabin behind his main house. Caleb stayed for two years of humility and intolerance at the hands of his employer. The pay was not enough to support his family and his children often went to bed hungry. Caleb knew it was time to make another change.

In 1828, Peter Tooley and family from Vermont had moved into Palermo, a town adjacent to Volney, both located in Oswego County, NY. Peter and Caleb became good friends, occasionally tipping a glass at the log cabin tavern in Jennings Corners in the Town of Palermo. Caleb's cough had disappeared completely, possibly from the high

humidity within the Great Swamp area, or, as Caleb often said, "the blackberry brandy served it's purpose." Peter spoke highly of the virtues of David Jennings, the owner of several farms. Peter had his own farm but encouraged Caleb to sign a five-year contract that Jennings was offering to those wishing to work a farm on shares.

The Olin family left Volney in the fall of 1830 and moved to a farm in Palermo, working it on shares with David Jennings. Everyone was happy with this arrangement. Caleb was healthy and the children kept arriving every other year. The Baptist church was officially organized, in 1835. The Olins joined and helped with the construction of a 24' x 30' wood, steepled church the following year. Belinda bore five children in Whitingham and six more children during their years in Oswego County, NY, making a total of eleven known children.

When their oldest son, Alfred, left No. 1 School located directly across the road from the new Baptist church in Palermo, he was apprenticed to D. C. Burritt, the local blacksmith. Alfred was a hard worker, learned fast and made his parents proud. The job provided Alfred the skill for his own shop later in Michigan. John, Alfred's younger brother, remained at home and began a serious courtship lasting ten years with a neighbor's daughter, Roxanne Whitehead.

In 1830, Caleb received word that his father had died. Later, in 1833, he had a chance to return to Whitingham to visit his mother and close out his remaining land-holdings. He received a total sum of $500. Caleb's mother died in 1838; this freed him from any further responsibilities in VT.

A large influx of new families appeared on the ridges of the Great Swamp during the 1830s. Caleb began to feel crowded and restless again, reawakening his old urge of going west. He had saved some money from his share-farming and had doubled it with the sale of his Vermont property. On one of his weekly visits with Peter Tooley, he purchased a weekly paper printed in the early spring of 1841 at Oswego. He laid it open to a large ad so that Belinda would naturally see it when she took care of the can of sperm oil she had requested for her betty lamps. The large, half-page ad announced the establishment of the Oswego and Ohio Transportation Company that provided a means of carrying merchandise and passengers to and from the west and New York City. One could travel by packet boat via the Erie Canal to Buffalo and points west or travel by steamer express via Lake Ontario, though the Canadian Welland Canal to Lake Erie and points west.

Caleb was anxious to leave right away for lands in Michigan. Belinda took a more cautious approach. Rising to the occasion, she suggested that he take his two sons, Alfred and John, to scout for a place to live. Father and sons left in the spring of 1841, taking the packet boat to Buffalo, transferring to a lake schooner, and traveling up the Detroit River, the shortest river in the world, to Detroit, Michigan. The Olins purchased horses in order to freely roam the interior of Michigan. Despite the mosquitos and bleeding from the fierce little wounds of the black fly, the three agreed that Portland, on the low hills at the confluence on the Looking Glass and Grand Rapids Rivers, would be the right place to make a home. Portland is a village in the Town of Portland, Ionia County, 120 miles west of Detroit with a town population of 500 in 1848.

The Olin trio spent the next week talking to local people and riding around the countryside. Twenty-two year old Alfred fell in love with Miss Caroline Barnes, the village school teacher, who taught her students in a small shanty between two business establishments. Caroline felt the same way about Alfred but questioned his ability to earn a living. Alfred convinced his father to advance him enough money for blacksmith tools and a supply of iron. He wished to set up a shop as soon as possible to gain his future wife's respect and that of her parents.

Before returning to New York State, Caleb and John rode to Ionia, the county seat for Ionia County, where the United States Government had established a land office in 1835. Land was available around the Portland area, but Caleb was unable to take any options simply because he had emptied his pockets of cash to help Alfred. Returning to Portland, John convinced his father to let him stay to help Alfred for a month or two. Caleb agreed, knowing full well what Belinda's reaction would be when he returned home without either of his two sons.

Belinda was upset, missing her sons, but soon dried her tears when Caleb described his trip. He praised the well-drained flat land with oak openings, occasional willow, tamarack, and willow swamps around many lakes, and the peculiar outcroppings of coal washed out by the glaciers. The young children asked about the Indians. Caleb said he only saw a few who appeared harmless and destitute. The Michigan Government had just passed acts for appropriations to support and relocate some of the Indian tribes such as: the Kickapoos, Swan Creeks, and the Black Rivers. Thinking of herself and her children,

Belinda questioned Caleb about travel conditions. He explained that they would be able to take their wagon and some household items with them and travel on the same boat from Oswego to Detroit in good comfort in roughly 4-5 days.

When John finally arrived home in mid-November, his excuse was Alfred's marriage to Caroline Barnes. He had helped Alfred establish a blacksmith shop in Portland in a lean-to addition on Joseph Roe's Tailor Shop and stayed at Alfred's request to witness his marriage to Caroline. Alfred's marriage shocked his parents into the world of reality. They acknowledged that their children would eventually leave them in favor of a future with an unknown mate.

The OLIN family suffered through a long winter, not because of weather, illnesses, or hunger, but from anxiety and impatience anticipating when the ice would clear on the lakes. They wanted to leave as early as possible in the spring. John asked to stay behind. He had found work in East Palermo and was becoming more serious with his courtship with Roxanne Whitehead.

In May of 1842, Caleb, Belinda, and nine of their children boarded a new, lake steamer-clipper ship in Oswego and sailed in relative comfort for Detroit. The steamer made many stops along the way. The ship made good time, passing others that relied only on sails and passing others that ran out of wood for the boilers and had no sails. Belinda's children had no problem passing the time watching the many boats on the lakes, the frequent docking, strange people boarding and unboarding, and even suffering some minor sea sickness and sunburn. The girls, Clarissa and Nancy, were old enough to wait on tables in the dining salon. This cut their passage costs in half. Fifteen year old Adelaide reluctantly became the sitter for her younger brothers and sisters while Belinda devoted most of her time to baby William. Another family of five boarded with their possessions at Oswego and got off at Toledo, Ohio. The ship made several stops for wood to keep the boiler fires going, to drop off or pick up barrels, crates, burlap bags of unknown goods, and 21 horses were loaded at the Ashtabula, Ohio landing that were to be delivered to the Army in Detroit.

Two incidents sobered passengers and crew alike. The first happened on the second day while their ship was slowly progressing down Chippawa Creek from the Welland Canal toward the Niagara River leading to Lake Erie. Chippawa Creek was narrow and shallow. This caused the Captain and crew to stay constantly on guard. One of

the crew, walking backward to take up a slack in a rope, accidently stepped on the Olin's calico cat, killing it instantly. The sailor apologized profusely and thought the cat must have already used eight of it's nine lives. The other incident involved loss of a human life. Thick fog rolled off the coast of Lake Erie near the port of Huron, making it impossible to navigate during the night hours. However, the Captain kept his ship moving slowly parallel to the coastline. A seaman stationed in the bow climbed the rail hoping to see better into the fog, lost his grip and fell headfirst into the fog-shrouded water. It was a few minutes before he was missed. The Captain ordered the anchor dropped and sent out two dinghies with lanterns to search. The search continued a few hours after the fog lifted in the morning with no results so the ship continued on to Detroit.

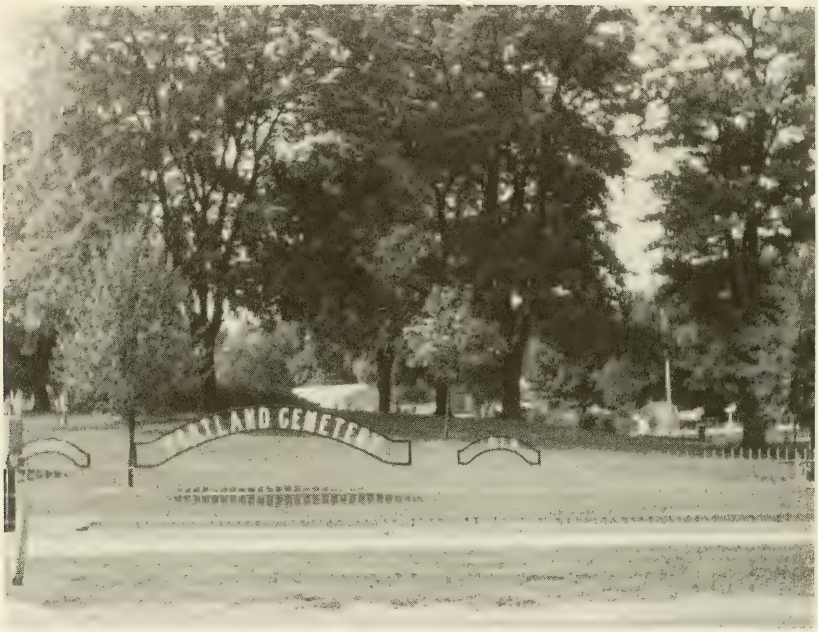
The OLIN family reached Detroit five days after their departure from Oswego. Their ship tied up to the dock late in the afternoon, and it was dark before their belongings were unloaded. Caleb settled his family in a nearby hotel, returned to the dock to collect his belongings, reassembled and loaded the wagon in preparation of an early start in the morning, and finally crawled under it for a few hours of sleep.

The sun had risen over the treetops the next morning before Caleb was satisfied that he had done all he could to make the 120-mile journey inland to Portland. He was amazed how well the horses were performing after the ride on the water. The turnpike to Lansing was well worn, and caused no problems, during the four days of this part of their journey. The family was accommodated in stage taverns along the route. Caleb had hoped to reach Portland in three days. When Belinda and her daughters detected the smell of strawberries, everyone stopped to pick the colorful and flavorful berries. At the end of four days, their hands and mouths were stained red from getting their fill of strawberries.

Lansing was named the capital of Michigan shortly after Michigan was admitted to the union in 1837, five years before the arrival of the Olins. Jackson was supposed to have been the capital site, but had to settle for a state prison instead. Caleb guided his team through Lansing and continued on another twenty-two miles to Portland. Alfred and Caroline joyously welcomed his mother, father, and siblings. Alfred, normally quiet and reserved, had made arrangements for the family to rest a few days before finding something permanent.

The next morning, Caleb rode to Iona to inquire about government

land. There was none left. He would need to buy from a land promoter or buy privately. In his disappointment, Caleb suggested that they continue on west to Wisconsin Territory. If Alfred planned to go west, Caroline said she would stay in Portland, her attitude was quite the opposite of Belinda's.



Caleb OLIN, son of Joseph[4] Olden was buried here in the Portland cemetery, Portland, Ionia County, MI, 1847, five years after he left New York State (1994)

The children were tired after the long trip and wished to stay in Portland. Belinda had observed the strain between Alfred and his wife and hesitated only a moment before expressing her desire to remain in the beautiful strawberry fields of Michigan. Caleb was over-ruled! Once again, it appears that Caleb, the farmer, either rented a farm or worked a farm on shares. No record of his owning property or paying taxes have been found in Michigan.

Caleb's cough returned within a year after he settled in Portland. It became uncontrollable, making him weaker and thinner, unable to fight off the fever and ague that raged through central Michigan in 1846. Dr. Moses B. Beers gave Belinda little hope of her husband's survival. Caleb died in March, 1847. In his last days he confided to

Belinda that he was fortunate to have a good wife, healthy, responsible children, and encouraged Belinda to remarry.

Belinda was not yet fifty years old and needed the comforts of a faithful male companion. When her daughter, Nancy, married Jonathan Bailey in June, 1847, three months after her father's death, Belinda found her new man, Henry R. Burhouse. Belinda and Henry Burhouse were listed as witnesses to Nancy's wedding.

In the spring of 1848, Belinda received a letter from her son, John, informing her that he and Roxanne Whitehead were getting married and would be traveling to Portland, MI for their honeymoon. His visit proved to be both joyous and sad to him. His wife, the pretty and likeable Roxanne, was welcomed with open arms into his family, but he sensed signs of discomfort amongst his siblings. He suspected the problem centered around his mother and Henry Burhouse's situation. Henry was living with the Olin family as Belinda's common-law husband. John took the matter in hand by extending his honeymoon another week and encouraged his mother to become legally married. Belinda Daniels Olin did marry Henry Burhouse on May 6, 1848, in Portland, Ionia County, Michigan. The marriage was performed by W. Brooks, Justice of the Peace, and witnessed by John Olin, son of the bride. John and Roxanne returned home to Palermo, NY.

Clarissa married George Griffin in 1845, Nancy had married Jonathan Bailey in 1847, James and William died in 1848. Melissa married Henry Colvin in 1848 and, of course, Alfred was married to Caroline Barnes. The Olin family, by 1849, was reduced from eleven children to three at home. Of these three, Adelaide, 22 years old, lived at home but worked out as a domestic. That left Belinda and Henry Burhouse responsible for the remaining two young girls, 14-year old Emily, and 10-year old Julia. Later in 1849, Adelaide was stricken with an incurable disease and died leaving only Emily and Julia at home. The 1850 census for the Henry Burhouse household lists one child, 11-year old Julia. Apparently 15-year old Emily dropped out of school and was working in another household. Emily married when she was 18 to Peter Scaddin and two years later the 14-15 year old Julia left home to marry Elliot Curtis. When and where Belinda and Henry died has not surfaced.

The following stories tell a little more about the life of each child of Caleb and Belinda (Daniels) Olin and their descendants.

ALFRED E. OLIN

Alfred E. Olin, the oldest child and first son, was born in 1819, in Whitingham, VT. He moved with his parents to Whitingham, VT, Palermo, NY, and Portland, MI. He married Caroline Barnes, 1841, in Portland, MI and owned a successful blacksmith shop. In 1843, two years after his arrival in Michigan, he was able to purchase Lot #79 of Block #8 in Portland Village for $50. from E.A. Newman. He put up a crude but serviceable building for his blacksmith shop. Alfred's name and profession are noted many times as part of the early history of Portland. His impulsive marriage to Caroline did not sit very well with

Portland Township, Ionia County, Michigan map indicating owners or residents outside the Village of Portland during the late 1800s. Note the black square in the village between the letters L and A of Portland. It was the site of Alfred's blacksmith shop on Bridge Street. A dark trianglular section SE on Bridge Street is the original cemetery with a slightly sunken area believed to be where Caleb Olin is buried. The Barnes family farm is shown middle right.

her father. She was sharp-witted, well-educated and respected for her ability to teach and discipline the village children. Her father, B. B. Barnes, owner of a sizeable and productive farm, had expected his daughter to gravitate to a better teaching job in a larger city and perhaps marry someone of position or wealth, certainly not become the wife of a blacksmith. Nevertheless, Barnes had no choice but to take his horses or equipment to Alfred, the only blacksmith in town. He refused to pay Alfred for the service for two years. Caroline interceded by convincing her father to deed 20 plus acres to her for work performed by her husband valued at $50.

During Alfred's first year in Portland, mail was delivered on a weekly basis. The whole town turned out when the mail bag was opened. People were eager to hear from back east. It cost two shillings or 24 cents to claim a letter. A year later, when the turnpike proved to be passable, the stage coach delivered mail daily.

Alfred and Caroline sold their two pieces of property and his shop in 1846 for $110 and her 20 plus acres for $65 in 1850. They moved to Greenburg, Clinton County (east next to Ionia County) sometime in 1849 where Alfred died in 1856. His death gave his father-in-law renewed incentive to promote Caroline's future. Somehow, he convinced 32 year old Caroline into abandoning her four children to marry a friend of his, a wealthy 65 year old widower from Detroit. The wedding took place in her father's home in Portland on July 5, 1857. All four of Alfred and Caroline's children were under-age and were actually "farmed out" or indentured to other families.

Their oldest child was Oscar, born in 1844. He was shown in the 1860 Ionia County census to be living with Murray Hunt, a farmer in Lyons Township. Oscar was listed as a 15 year old farm laborer. He died four years later while working on the Hunt farm.

Emily, who was born in 1846, probably was sent to a family where she worked as a household servant. She was only 13 years old in 1860 and could have been still attending school. She was 36 years old in 1883 when she married John Wilson of Portland.

Osman and Albert, ten and eight years old, respectively, in the 1860 census, were shown to be living in the household of Lewis and Caroline Sutton, farmers, born in New York, and living near Portland. Both the Suttons were 38 years old and apparently childless. The possibility that the two boys shared in the life of loving and devoted foster parents is certainly hopeful. Osman was 38 years old in 1888

when he married Amelia Flanders. They had at least one child, Otis, born in 1891. Osman and his family moved to Englishville, Kent County, about 1900. Osman's brother, Albert, died in Portland at age 20.

JOHN OLIN

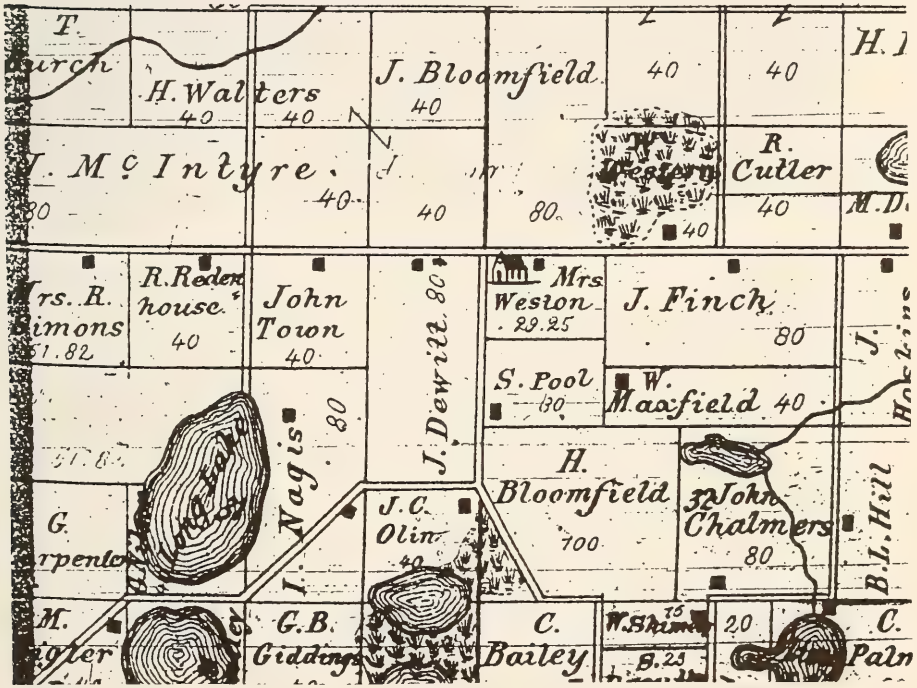
Caleb and Belinda's second Oldest son, John, born in 1821, in Whitingham, VT, remained in Palermo, NY while the rest of the family migrated to Michigan. John was in love with Roxanne Whitehead, daughter of a large land-owner and prosperous farmer. It bothered him that his brother, Alfred, married the girl of his dreams within a few months after he met her. John's girl, Roxanne, was not about to be hurried. She loved her tall, dark-haired John, but presented him with a tough condition for marriage. When John could assure her that she and any children would live in the same comfort provided by her father, she would agree to an immediate marriage. She made it clear that she was also willing to wait a reasonable number of years. John knew he had to make money as quickly as possible. He wanted Roxanne for his wife and he wanted lots of land in Michigan.

Shortly after returning from Alfred's marriage in Michigan, John secured a job with H. G. Storer, Contractor, Carpenter, Joiner in East Palermo, seven miles from home. Since it was too far to travel from home daily, John asked Storer if he could bed down during the week in his shop. It happened that Storer also needed a night watchman. So a small room in the rear of the carpenter shop was fixed up with a bed, table, and chair for John in return for his nightly presence. This nightly obligation infringed upon his courtship with Roxanne, but it helped accumulate savings. Also, he could work additional hours for pay, and gain more confidence and experience in the joining of wood for cabinets, dressers, commodes, and other furniture. He worked the daylight hours and half the night with lantern or lamplight. Consequently, Storers promoted him to shop foreman, with an increase in pay, over six to eight other employees. When Storers was pressed to meet a deadline in his building construction, he called on John for help.

Although Roxanne missed her lover, she delighted in his account of his work and desire to relocate in Michigan. When they finally took marriage vows in 1848 in Palermo, a year after his father's death, and seven years after his return from Portland, John had accumulated well

over $5,000, a considerable sum of money at that time.

John and Roxanne (Whitehead) Olin enjoyed their honeymoon reunion with his mother and siblings and spent many hours traveling around western Michigan looking for something that might appeal to them. They were impressed with the thousands of acres of prairie grass flat lands, punctuated with sand dunes and shaded lakes. Settlers from the east proudly displayed their new houses and out-buildings surrounded with white fences. They wandered north of Grand Rapids Village, and veered slightly to the west.



1876 map indicating owners or residents of the SW corner of Solon Township, Kent County, Michigan.

John's sister, Nancy, had married Jonathan Bailey the previous summer and settled somewhere above Grand Rapids. John found his sister and new brother-in-law and asked about the availability of decent land in their neighborhood. Jonathan suggested the 40 acres west of their place that might be for sale. Twenty acres appeared to be excellent: level, clear, with deep soil, while the back half dropped off a cliff which had good, hardwood, timber trees. The four of them rode down around the steep cliff and came upon a beautiful natural lake surrounded by leaning willow trees. John and Roxanne decided to buy the forty acres from Mr. Smith who had purchased a large tract of land from the State of Michigan.

In 1849, the couple returned to Palermo, New York. John went back to his job with Storers and Roxanne gave birth to their first two children, Frank in 1850 and Ida in 1853. Roxanne announced another pregnancy in 1857 and John decided the time and money was right for their permanent move to Michigan.

Due to Roxanne's condition, the family traveled by rail from Syracuse, NY, through to Grand Rapids. They stopped only for transfers and a short visit in Portland. John installed Roxanne and the children in a good hotel and rode out to his sister's farm. After surveying his land, he picked sites for his house and barn and negotiated with a local carpenter to do the rough construction. John intended to complete the buildings himself. The house became one of the finest houses in Solon Township, Kent County, Michigan.

One week and five days after Roxanne moved into her new home, she gave birth to a healthy boy, named John Caleb Olin, who died unexpectedly as an infant.

Meanwhile, John discovered that his lake was connected by a short natural waterway to a smaller lake. He added this small lake to his farm and he and Roxanne named the lakes "OLIN LAKES" in 1857 in honor of their deceased infant son, John Caleb Olin. The two connected lakes are shown in the Kent County Atlas, 1876, as "OLIN LAKES". Around the turn of the 20th century, the new owners of the lakes made them famous locally for a summer resort and recreational facilities. In 1994, the lakes are still called "OLIN LAKES."

John Olin continued to be a thrifty saver while contributing to the local economy. The 1881 published *History of Kent County, Michigan* states that, "John Olin, from nothing but labor and thrift, backed by honesty and integrity, made a fine independence for future comfort."

Note: This is the only building left from John and Roxanne (Whitehead) OLIN'S farm in Solon Township, Michigan. It is a two-story granary used for storing small grain or corn before the grain is ground or fed to livestock. It has a ventilator shaft in its center up through both floors to the outside and louvered side ventilators, allowing for air flow and moisture dissipation. A dug road, cut into the cliff leads down to the lake. The granary is located at the end of the road and also at the open end of a two-acre coulee. The coulee or ravine has three very steep banks, 50 to 60 feet high, natural fences for any livestock. John had a super barnyard, with minimum of fencing, no need for a large barn. He stacked his hay nearby and was able to feed from the stacks and granary. His cattle were well-protected from the winter's cold, northwest winds. It appears that the lean-to on the granary served as a shelter during milking and birthing. (1994)

OLIN Lakes located in Solon Township, Kent County, MI, 20 miles north of Grand Rapids. (1994)

Typical resort facilities of the early 1900s. The OLIN Resort sported several rustic cabins, picnic grounds, bathing beach, excellent fishing opportunities, boating docks, and large dance hall with an outside food and drink bar. (1994)

No male children of John and Roxanne lived to propagate the Olin line. Misfortune struck the family in 1866 when their 16 year old son, Frank, died at their Solon home.

In 1868, daughter Ida, just sixteen years old, married George Meyers in her parents' home. Another son, possibly name John, was born in 1867, a year after the death of son, Frank. Cursory research has failed to authenticate his existence.

CLARISSA OLIN

Caleb and Belinda Olin's third child was their first daughter, Clarissa, born in 1823 in Whitingham, VT. She accompanied her parents on the move from Whitingham to Oswego County, NY and on to Portland, MI where she married George W. Griffin in 1845. Griffin was born in Richland, Oswego County, NY. Their marriage took place in the Olin home in Portland two years before her father's death. The newly-wedded Griffins moved east to Commerce, Oakland County, MI and they raised three children: Charles, Harriett, and Margaret. George Griffin worked for several years as a mill-hand in flouring mills at Davison and Commerce before he built his own mill in Commerce. His farmer suppliers respected his honesty in giving a fair price for their grain and his customers were never shorted in weight or change. Clarissa's nephew, Osman, son of Alfred, was a very close friend who kept in touch with his family through her.

George and Clarissa (OLIN) Griffin's oldest child, their only son, Charles, was born in 1847 and married Catherine Quina in 1871. She was from Lapeer County, MI. Charles died in an accident in 1874 leaving Catherine to raise young Charles and a daughter born in 1874, after his death.

George and Clarissa's oldest daughter, Harriett, was born in 1848 and was married to Horatio Flint four months after the War Between the States ended in April, 1865. The Flints produced six children; Clarissa, who married H. W. Lewis in 1886 and they had at least one child, Albert born in 1891. The other five children were: Charles B., Nettie, Hattie, George H., and Myrtle.

Harriett's sister, Margaret, also married a Flint, quite possibly a brother or cousin. The marriage of Margaret Griffin and Phineas Flint resulted in seven children: Julia, Willis E., Lewis E., Ardelle, George W. (who married Mary Keith); Clarissa, and, Rosa L. (who married William Holiday.) The Griffin and Flint families lived primarily in

eastern Michigan north of Detroit.

NANCY OLIN

Caleb and Belinda (Daniels) Olin's fourth child, Nancy was born in 1825 in Whitingham, VT. She married Jonathan Bailey in Portland in 1847, shortly after her father's death. Willard Brooks, Justice of Peace, officiated at their wedding while Henry and Belinda Burhouse were witnesses to the 15 year old daughter's marriage. The Baileys had only one known child, a son, Jonathan, named after his father who was a laborer working on replacement bridges across the Grand Rapids River linking East and West Portland. The Baileys purchased a forty acre plot of land for a farm in Solon township, Kent County, MI in 1847, within a few months of their marriage. They left the farm in 1880, and returned back to Portland. While in Solon township, young Jonathan Bailey, along with his cousins, Ida and Frank Olin, attended school at Solon Township School District #4.

ADELAIDE and JAMES OLIN

Caleb and Belinda's fifth child, daughter Adelaide, born in 1827 in Vermont arrived in Michigan with high hopes for her future only to die young, at age 22, of an incurable disease in 1849.

Adelaide's next younger brother also died young. He was James, born 1829, the first to have been born in Oswego County, NY. He died in 1848, the year before Adelaide's death and a year after his father's death.

MELISSA OLIN

Caleb and Belinda (Daniels) Olin's seventh child, Melissa, was born in 1831 in Palermo, Oswego County, NY. She married Henry Colvin in 1848 at her mother's home in Portland and raised four children: Helen, who married Edwin Chagar in 1875 and had three known children born in Commerce, MI: Edwin, Frederick, and Ida. The other Colvin children were: Rufus, Nettie and William. The Henry Colvin family lived primarily in Oakland County, MI until they ventured farther west to Wisconsin. Melissa Olin Colvin died in 1874 in Sparta, Monroe County, WI.

HENRY and EMILY OLIN

Caleb and Belinda's eighth child was Henry, born in 1833, in Palermo and died at age six in Palermo, 1839. Some researchers have Henry dying in Solon Township, Kent County, MI in 1839. This is highly doubtful in light of what we know about the Caleb Olin family.

Caleb and Belinda's ninth child, Emily, born 1835 in Palermo, NY continued to live with her mother and stepfather until 1853 when she married Peter Scaddin of Greenville, Montcalm County, MI where they made their home.

JULIA OLIN

Caleb and Belinda (Daniels) Olin's tenth child, Julia, born 1839, in Palermo, NY left the home of her mother and stepfather, Belinda Olin and Henry Burhouse when she became eighteen years old to live with her brother, John and sister-in-law, Roxanne in Solon, Kent County. Roxanne was happy to have Julia for the short time to assist her with the two young children while she gave birth to young John. Julia could cook, sew and possessed a good eye for decorating the Olin's new home. While at John's home, Julia met and married a dapper salesman, Elliott Curtis, from the Town of Kent, just a few miles from "OLIN LAKES." His sales assignments changed frequently making it necessary for Julia and him to move in order to keep his job. Their oldest child was born in Plainfield in 1856, a year after their marriage. That child was Albert, whose two known children are Clyde and Iva. The record of his marriage is missing. William Elliot was born next in Grand Rapids in the same year, 1857, that his cousin, John C., son of John and Roxanne Olin was born. William E. married Margaret Johnson in 1890 and had five known children: Florence, who married Clayton Inman; Mabel, who married Dalton Jeans; Berniece, who married John Fountain; Charlotte, who married James Lamb; and George, who married Genieve Nesbitt. William Elliott Curtis was a logger who beat the odds in his occupation by living almost 99 full years.

The last three children of Julia and Elliott Curtis were born in Alpena, Alpena County, MI on the shores of Lake Huron, about 200 miles north of Detroit as the crow flies. These three children were: Charles, who probably married in 1885, and had a son, William D.; David, who died at age 19 before reaching his majority; and Inez, who married Robert Mason in 1886.

Julia Olin Curtis divorced her husband, Elliott Curtis, some time during the early 1870s and married again. This time she married her first husband's cousin, Eber Curtis, during the mid 1870s. A son, Francis (Frank), was born in 1878 to Julia and Eber Curtis while they were living in Birch Run, Saginaw County, near Flint, MI. Frank married Ada Collins of Corbin, Sumner County, Kansas in 1900. He was a teamster and blacksmith by trade and was obligated to move his family wherever his employment happened to be. Frank and Ada managed to conceive and raise eight children on their nomadic journey living in Kansas, Oregon, California, North Dakota, Washington, and Canada.

Caleb and Belinda Olin's last child was William, born in Palermo, Oswego County, NY in 1842 and died in 1848 in Portland, MI, one year after his father's death.

Caleb was buried in the original section of the Portland Cemetery. There are no markers in a sunken section about 20 feet square. Quite possibly his daughter, Adelaide and two sons, James and William, are buried near their father.

It is interesting to note that neither Caleb or his children named any of their children Joseph after Caleb's father, grandfather, or great-grandfather, all named Joseph. Perhaps there was more animosity and friction between Caleb and his father over the spelling of their surname, Olden or Olin than we suspect.

Chapter 21

Son, Daniel Olden, in Whitingham and Readsboro, Vermont

Daniel, son of Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) was born ca 1795 in Guilford, VT. One year later this Joseph Olden family, consisting of four children; Besty, Caleb, Hannah, and Daniel, moved from their home near Joseph's father in Guilford to a farm in Whitingham, still in Windham County, VT. Daniel and his siblings were brought up believing in the Baptist faith and attended school in Town of Whitingham District #1.

Before his parents helped organize the Baptist church in Whitingham the family attended weekly services in churches of other denominations. Methodist and Universalist churches were located in Whitingham Centre, formerly Sadawga Springs. Brigham Young, the Mormon leader who succeeded Joseph Smith, was born in 1801, six years after Daniel Olden, and lived diagonally across the street from these two churches. The Young family left Whitingham in 1804 to settle temporarily in Palmyra, Monroe County, New York where Brigham Young gained very strong convictions in the Mormon principles.

Daniel and his older brother, Caleb, were over six feet tall, and quite husky, unlike their father who was short and husky. Their mother, a Cudworth, was taller than most other women. By the time Daniel was twelve years old, he could tie a truss of hay or straw faster and tighter than most men in his neighborhood. (A truss of hay was the unit of measure prior to wired bales. A truss or bundle of old hay weighed 56 pounds, new hay weighed 60 pounds, and straw weighed only 36 pounds.)

After six years of schooling, Daniel left because his size embarrassed him and made him the butt of cruel jokes. He was normally a good natured youngster but not too swift with his books. Therefore, when Daniel was twelve to thirteen years old he helped others in the community when extra muscle was needed. His early maturity and physical stature trapped him into an unexpected marriage at age 15 to Polly Jillson in 1810. Polly was born in 1785 and was ten years older than Daniel. Joseph and Leah objected to a marriage of

their young son to a much older women but Polly's influence over young Daniel prevailed. The Jillson family, David and Sarah, welcomed Daniel into their home. The Oldens were heart broken and refused to associate with the Jillsons.

Daniel and Polly's first child, Mary, was born in 1811. Baby Mary added to the already overflowing number of people in the Jillson household. Polly's parents owned a small farm in Heath, a town south of Whitingham in Massachusetts, and they arranged for Daniel, Polly, and daughter, Mary, to live on and work that small farm.

The move to Heath proved to be a blessing in disguise. Daniel's parents had refused to visit him while he lived with the Jillsons. Now that Daniel and his family were on their own, the Olden's animosity softened toward Polly who invited Daniel's parents over to Heath to celebrate the birth of another child. After the birth of Daniel Olden, Jr., ca 1818, the Oldens moved to Readsboro, Bennington County, VT.

The Jillson and Olden families were united by marriage again when Betsey Olden married Joel Jillson in 1814 and Sylvia Olden married Timothy Jillson in 1820. Apparently all was forgiven by 1826 when Daniel's father deeded a farm free and clear in Whitingham to his son and daughter-in-law, Polly. However, the young Olden family remained in Readsboro until the death of Daniel's mother.

Meanwhile, Daniel joined the home guard militia in 1814 because it was expected of all able-bodied males 16 to 50 years old, to spend a day or two in June for refresher training. Uniforms varied: some men wore what was left from the Revolutionary War and others wore the more recent uniforms used in the War of 1812. Because there was no dress code for militia uniforms, young men usually wore their working clothes or to impress a special girl, a fellow might wear his Sunday clothes. A militia man's most important item for inspection presentation was his gun and the necessary accessories: powder horn with at least a pound of powder; bullet pouch with four pounds of sized bullets; six working flints; priming wire; and a tinder box.

The June training days proved to be a holiday to the militia men and spectators. Skirmishes and deployments were ordered by officers, who fancied themselves Captains or Colonels and tried to act accordingly to the embarrassment of their men and amusement of the spectators. When a barrel of hard cider, rum, or whiskey was available, minor scuffles would break out. Daniel Olden, the large man of the community, often found himself challenged to wrestling matches.

An epidemic of typhoid fever invaded southern Vermont in 1823. It hit the Jillson family particularly hard. High fever over a lengthy period was often fatal to the elderly Jillsons. It was determined that typhoid fever was caused by the use of "night soil." Most privies or outhouses were located some distance from the house or well, usually near the family garden. Privies were cleaned out, by removing the human waste at least once a year and this was used to fertilize the garden. Because bacteria from the waste invades the human intestinal system, causing typhoid fever and other complications, the practice of spreading the waste on a family garden was outlawed. However, some families cleaned their privies after dark, and spread the waste on their garden, hoping to be unobserved. Hence, the term "night soil."

The death of Daniel's father, Joseph Olden, in 1830, was the first of a series of disasters confronting his family during that decade. In 1832, cholera struck with vengeance throughout the New England States.

The Jillsons and other associated Olden families escaped death, but not the prolonged agony of administering relief and praying for each other's survival. The Daniel Olden family is believed to have lost at least two un-named daughters and a son.

Several Pike families lived in Daniel's neighborhood. The Pikes were not always on the best terms with the neighbors. On May 24, 1833, Roswell Pike filed notice with the Town Council that Daniel Olden owed him for boarding a horse in his pasture. According to Daniel, his horse had strayed away over a month before and Daniel had made inquiries around the county. He figured that Mr. Pike knew that the horse in his pasture belonged to Daniel! Daniel had to pay, and was upset to know that he had a neighbor who deliberately held his horse just to collect a little money for allowing the horse to feed on grass.

Scarlet fever raged through the countryside in 1834. Several families lost loved ones or had loved ones left with damaged ears, eyes, heart, or kidneys. The enforced isolation of quarantines made hardships of living almost unbearable. But, once again the Oldens and Jillsons were spared fatalities, by surviving the terrible suffering that continued for several months.

The final event of the 1830s to test Daniel's inner strength was the death of his mother, Leah, in 1840. Her death was a shock to the Olden family because she had no serious illness, never complained, and was a healthy woman in her early 70s. Equally shocking to the family

was her will. After her husband, Joseph's[4], death, Leah asked all her children to sign off on his estate in favor of herself. Leah left everything to one child, Roxa, whose second marriage was to Eber Burrows.

Dr. Walter Gillett, graduate of Castleton Medical College, Vermont, served as the attending physician for any of the Olden's illnesses. He practiced medicine in Readsboro during the 1830s before moving to Whitingham in 1840. The doctor's father, Timothy Gillett was noted for his craftmanship in fashioning wooden-ware used primarily as household utensils. Daniel spent his spare time learning how to do this and became quite proficient in working wooden knots or burls from maple or walnut trees into serviceable and decorative wooden-ware for the family use or for gifts.

Just about every town in the northeast purchased a few bramble or brush hooks used to keep the roads clear of enroaching brush. Fitted with a long handle, it looked like the beak of a bird of prey. The inside of the hook was sharpened so that when pulled upwards against a brush or bramble it would slice it free for removal. Daniel, and his neighbors, were obligated to keep the local roads in repair and to keep the brush cut back. Each had to work a certain number of hours per year which eliminated the need for a road tax, but in 1829, the Councilmen of Readsboro voted for a road tax because labor from residents was undependable. Daniel Olden is first shown in the 1829's grant list of taxpayers charged with a state tax of $16.05 and a highway tax of $16.25. Surprisingly, the taxes decreased each year until it hit a low of $12.25 for state and highway tax each. The next year, 1834, both started to rise moderately. These were the same years that the dairy farmers began to make a decent living by sending their butter and cheese to distant markets.

Daniel and Polly had at least six children in attendance at School District #9 (total students were 18) for eight weeks or two months during the winter of 1831. In 1835, the Oldens were sending six children to school to a different district, #5, that had 45 students enrolled.

Ice became more than a luxury in the early 1800s; it became a necessity for rural summer life. Previously, food was preserved by salting, spicing, pickling, smoking, or dehydration. Ice was available in the winters in most fresh water streams or ponds in the northeast and was in demand for breweries, hospitals, and canal shipping, as well as

for home use. A special ice auger was used to bore holes into the ice to determine its thickness and quality. Five inches of ice would hold a man, a horse and any equipment used to cut and remove the ice. Ice was cut by hand, using a two-handed ice saw until 1829 when a horse-drawn ice plow came on the market. Some ice was deemed unfit to use if it was composed of dirty run-off water or was porous from repeated thaws. Every winter, Daniel and his neighbors spent many, many hours during favorable weather to cut, haul, and store ice in quantity for the summer markets. Of course, the Oldens had a share of the ice for their own use.

The Oldens lived on a small dairy farm on North Hill. In 1832, they watched what was supposed to be a fire-proof stone building being built for a woolen mill. Fourteen hand looms were installed in the mill where 20 "hands" were employed, mostly young ladies, to mass-produce woolen cloth. Ten years later, the Oldens watched the stone mill go up in flames on a clear, fall night.

In 1849, the first tannery in Readsboro was built by Austin Peane of Massachusetts on the old Walker mill site. It also burned down but was rebuilt in 1866 by A. H. Tucker. The tannery provided work for 20 men, had 40 lay vats and ten lime and water vats, and processed 20,000 hides each year using 900 cords of hemlock bark.

Another industry, manufacturer of cot-beds, employed ten men and used 300,000 feet of lumber in 1854 to supply the Union Army with thousands of cots during the Civil War.

Both Readsboro, Bennington County and Whitingham, Windham County were located in an isolated area of southern Vermont. Both had abundant water power available for light industries. Other factories in operation during these years made coat hangers, clothes pins, chairs, or just about anything made from wood. All families depended on the jobs generated in order to supplement their standard of living and encourage the younger generation to stay nearby instead of seeking work in larger cities or a different part of the country.

Daniel Olden, Sr. and Polly Jillson's oldest daughter, Mary born ca 1811, married _____ Grout. Daniel Olden, Jr. married Elvira Tenney in 1838 in Readsboro and took over his father's farm when Daniel Sr. and Polly returned to the farm west of Whitingham village. Another son, James, married Abigail Greene in 1841 in Whitingham about a year after their mother, Polly's death, 17 June 1840.

Daniel Olden Sr. remarried shortly after Polly's death to Amy

_____ in late 1840 or early 1841 in Whitingham. Daniel Sr. and Amy had a daughter Caroline.

DANIEL OLDEN, JR.

Daniel Olden Jr. and Elvira Tenney had eight children, all born in Readsboro, Bennington County, VT, including a set of twins. Five of the eight children died before they reached maturity. Charles Edward, born 1841 died at age 18 of "canker rash," a variety of scarlet fever, as did Esther Elvira, born 1851, who died at age seven and William B., born 1856 who died at age three. All three died within five weeks of each other in 1859. The twins, Amelia and Nealous A., born November 2, 1858 died of diphtheria at age five in 1863. It was 30 years later than an effective inoculation was discovered that prevented the spread of this highly contagious disease.

The surviving children: Enos born 1840, Lucinda born 1846, and Calvin D. born 1863, lived to reach their 80th birthday.

However, their father was not that fortunate. Daniel Jr. joined the Union Army of the Civil War a few months after the death of his twins and the birth of his young son, Calvin Darwin Olden. He was assigned to Company E., 8th Regiment of Vermont Volunteers. A year later, he returned to Vermont, apparently in poor health, and entered the Veteran's Hospital in Brattleboro where he died of pneumonia on 7th of November, 1864, at age 46. He was buried with honors in the North Hill Cemetery in Readsboro. Thirty-six years later, his faithful wife who continued to raise her children as a single parent, was laid to rest alongside of her husband in the North Hill Cemetery.

ENOS OLDEN

The oldest son of Daniel Olden, Jr. and Alvira Tenney was Enos, who married Sarah Handy in 1866 in Whitingham. What happened to her or to any possible children is not known. Thirty-five year old Enos married again on 18 December 1875, to 20 year old, Isadore Starkey. They produced nine children, all boys, except the first, Lillian, born 1875 in Illinois and who married Charles Martin. Enos and Isadore Olden moved to Barron, Wisconsin in 1877 where they had three sons: Lewis Edward in 1878, George Henry in 1880, and William Alfred in 1882. Barron, Wisconsin, is roughly 50 miles north of Eau Claire, where dozens of Enos Oldens/Olin's cousins lived. We wonder if they actually knew each other at the time.

Lewis Edward Olden married Edith Gertrude Smith, daughter of Fred B. and _____Pierce Smith of Massachusetts. They had two children born in Bellow Falls, Windham County, VT: Lewis Gilbert was born in 1908 and married Bertha Viola Kinne in 1928 at Canton, Massachusetts; and Mabel Elizabeth born in 1910 who married Ned R. Simpson in 1927. Lewis and Bertha (Kinne) Olden had two sons: George Lewis Olden born in 1930 in Norwood, MA, who married Evelyn Ann Smith in 1953 and Gilbert Edward Olden, born 1933, Plymouth, MA: who married Heather Townsend in 1959 at Higganum, Middlesex County, MA. These two Olden boys were born during the Great Depression years of the 1930s and both raised large families.

George Lewis Olden and Evelyn Ann Smith had seven children all born in MA; Judith Marie 1954; Loretta Mae 1955, who married Mark Blakley 1986; Lewis Gilbert, II 1959, who married Debra Sharbett 1982; James Edward 1960 and died 1963; Nancy Jean 1961; Patricia Ann 1967, who married Steven C. Howd 1986; and Mary Louise 1969.

Gilbert Edward Olden and Heather Townsend had five children all born in Norwood, MA: Valerie 1960, who married Richard Vilbig 1986; Rosalind 1961, who married Neil Mooney 1987; Curtis T. 1965; Jennifer 1967; and Alison 1970.

The next descending son of Enos and Isadore (Starkey) Olden was George Henry Olden, born 1880 and who married Laura Knight in 1908. He died 1968 in Unity, Sullivan County, New Hampshire. Their next son was William Alfred Olden born in 1882 and died in 1964 after marrying three wives; Nettie Brimmer, Esther Knight, and Bertha Abbott. His second wife gave him two children: Dana Eugene and Louie.

Enos and Isadore Olden's fifth child was Fred Albert born 1884 in Colrain, Franklin County, MA who married Hattie Gates. They had nine children: Harry, Ernest, Bessie, Samuel, Elizabeth, Lillian, Carrie, Fred, and Marjorie.

Enos and Isadore's sixth child was Leroy Elmer Olden born 1888 (the year of the great blizzard in northeastern United States) in Halifax, Windham County, VT and who married Esther Hale 1915 in Shelbourne Falls, MA and then had four children: Kenneth L., Ralph N., Louise E., and Isadore Mae.

Floyd Raymond Olden was the seventh child born 1889 in Charlemont, MA to Enos and Isadore. Floyd married Bertha Cobb and died in 1939. Their son, Floyd, was appointed a special policeman for

the Defense Commission by the Selectmen of the Town of Colrain on December 17, 1941, ten days after the infamous Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Enos and Isadore's eighth child was Frank Harrison Olden born 1892 in Whitecreek, NY who had two marriages: first to Myrtie Ashley, and second to Madeline Fenn.

The ninth and last of Enos and Isadore Olden's children was Jesse Eugene Olden born 1894 in Whitecreek, NY. Jesse also had two marriages: to Martha Ladd, and Helen Atherton. Jesse had three children whose mother is unknown: Horace P., Maurice D., and Helen L.

Returning to Daniel and Elvira (Tenney) Olden, Jr. and their other two surviving children, their daughter, Lucinda born 1846 married Merrit E. Bullock in 1861. Daniel and Elvira's youngest child, Calvin Darwin Olden was born 1863, during the middle of the Civil War, and never knew his father who died as a result of the war in 1864. Calvin D. Olden married Fanny L. Flynn at Whitingham in 1885. We know of at least five of their children: Lizzie May, born 1886 in Whitingham; Bertie Allen born 1894 in Whitingham; Harold Henry born 1898 in Readsboro; and Minnie born 1900 in Readsboro. Calvin's wife, Fannie Flynn, died in 1933 in Readsboro, Bennington County, VT and Calvin died nine years later, 1942 at Guilford, Windham County, VT, the ancestral home town of Calvin's great-grandfather, Joseph Olden who started the Olin-to-Olden name conversion.

JAMES M. OLDEN

Returning back a few generations to Daniel and Polly (Jillson) Olin we find another son, James M. Olden, born ca 1820 in Whitingham who married Abigail Greene in Readsboro, 1841, the year that the first emigrant wagon train of 47 people left Independence, Missouri for California. James and Abigail's first child was Arelia, born ca 1841 in Readsboro, who married another Jillson with the given name of Willard, in 1870. His parents were William and Sarah (Whitney) Jillson. Willard and Arelia Jillson had one child, Nora S., born in 1871 and died in 1875 at only four years old.

James and Abigail Olden's only other known child was Joseph Jillson Olden, born 1846 in Readsboro, who married Mary Lousia Willard in 1870 at Wilmington, Windham County, VT. She was the daughter of Dighton and Ann (Clark) Willard. Joseph and Mary Olden had three children: Wilton D., born 1873; Edith A., born 1875; and

Mabel W., born 1882.

The Joseph and Mary (Willard) Olden family lived for a while in Bellow Falls, VT where he worked as a carpenter and joiner for the J. F. Day Company, a woodworking and supply company, specializing in stairs, doors, windows, rails, and cabinets. Joseph became intrigued with the beauty and success of a new breed of fowl. His ordinary chickens were small, poor egg producers, and skimpy on meat. The new Langsham fowl were reported to be the greatest layers of any breed in America and their fine juicy flesh placed them in front as a table market fowl. A. A. & L. H. Halladay Company of Bellow Falls was recognized as outstanding breeders of the Langsham Fowl and sold young chicks or fertile eggs. Joseph bought 26 hatching eggs for $5.00 with the intention of starting his own flock of Langsham fowl. He put the eggs under four of his largest setting hens and was rewarded with 26 healthy Langsham chicks. When the chicks were two weeks old, weasels found their way into the chicken coop and killed all 26 chicks, but left the larger hens alive. That was the end of Joseph's attempt to improve his egg and Sunday dinner supply.

HENRY MARTIN OLDEN

The youngest son of Daniel and Polly (Jillson) Olden was Henry Martin born 1827 in Whitingham who married A/Elmino Dix in Athens, Crawford County, PA. When Henry Martin Olden left home to join the United States Army upon reaching his majority, he left behind a young girl who was madly in love with him. He was serving his country in the western region of Pennsylvania and West Virginia prior to the Civil War. In the winter of 1850, Elmina Dix became impatient with Henry and his infrequent, non-committal letters. She left her home in Readsboro, traveled to Crawford County, PA, found her man, Henry Martin Olden, and convinced or perhaps connived him into marriage. Elmina became a camp follower, taking her growing family from army camp to army camp whenever she could. If she was not allowed to follow, she returned home until she could follow again. Henry and Elmina's children numbered seven, born in four different states: PA, VT, MI, and SD. The children were: Lucina, Melans A., Ella/Ellen A., William E., Emma M., Charles D., and Andross A.

Prior to the Civil War, Henry Martin Olden's Company was on constant alert. Northern sympathizers aided southern slaves to escape from the south to Canada via the Underground Railroad. The system

worked effectively unless discovered. Radicals from both the North and South were advocating force either to secure the rights of the southerners or the rights of the slaves. One such radical was John Brown, who constantly aroused the populace to use force in freeing the slaves. When John Brown and his few followers tried to steal ammunition from army depots in West Virginia, Henry Martin Olden received marching orders which were soon cancelled until the actual start of the Civil War. He survived that war of all wars in the United States and was assigned to the Dakota Territory where he participated in ending the Red Cloud War that forced the Laramie Treaty of 1868. His next assignment took him to Sherman, Texas, three months before the Gold Rush in 1874 in the Black Hills of Dakota. Henry Martin Olden died in 1878 at Sherman, Grayson County, Texas. His wife, Elmina, for some reason, returned to Souther Dakota where she died in 1888 in Webster, Day County. Perhaps her oldest daughter, Lucina, who had married Alexander Duke in 1871 may have been living in South Dakota and provided a home for Elmina. Lucina Olden Duke died, 1930, in Molalla, Ciackamas County, Oregon.

Chapter 22

Son, Johnathan Olden, Remains in Whitingham, Vermont

Johnathan D. Olden, son of Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) Olden was born about 1797, their first child born in Whitingham after the move from Guilford. He grew up in a healthy family and was expected to do his share of the farm chores taking on more responsibility as he grew older and stronger. He was the youngest of three brothers and at times, as in other families, suffered abuse from his older brothers because of his youth. He was a big boy for his age and thought he could do more than he was able. So his brothers thought he was a pest. He was allowed to feed the chickens and gather the eggs and let the calf loose to nurse after the older boys and partially milked the mother cow. The older boys would laugh their heads off, watching Johnathan getting the calf away from it's mother because the young calf had to be tied up before the barn was closed. By the time Johnathan was eight, he was able and willing to perform all the chores, including milking of their few cows. This was agreeable with the older brothers.

Not only was he the youngest boy at home, he was the youngest boy at the small District #1 Whitingham School during his first three years of schooling. His mother had some misgivings about sending him off to school realizing that the older children would "pick" on him unmercifully. But she had faith in the big brothers' ability to recognize the limits of teasing. As Johnathan grew older, he grew bolder and his tolerance and peaceable nature revolted. He began to defend himself and other children in the lower grades.

The schoolhouse was crudely constructed with no thought of seasonal comfort. It was a narrow, peaked building with a smoky fireplace in the end opposite the entrance. The male teacher was fairly comfortable with his back to the fireplace. A few "recitation" seats made of 18-inch lengths of small logs standing on end were scattered in the center of the room. Along the two side walls, a plank shelf extended the full length of the room. The children's seats consisted of another row of planks nailed on top of more cut log lengths. The smaller children sat on one side of the room on the lower seats and the larger ones sat on the other. The shelf provided space for writing on

their slates and for holding their opened books. The children faced the walls and took turns with the window seats. At times, cold drafts and low temperatures were unbearable. When the sun began warming things up in the spring, dozens of huge, buzzing, blue-black flies and dizzy, erratic wasps would swoop down on students. Nevertheless, the youngsters were fortunate to receive some education in the rudimentary three Rs, Reading, Riteing, and Rithematic. Discipline was rendered by the teacher's cane or a fresh willow switch.

Large Jillson and Dix families lived north of the Oldens. Some of their children attended the same school and some attended District #6 School. Amy Dix, the seventh child of at least 11 children of Johnathan and Amy (Marsh) Dix, and her sister, Lucy, loved to pick berries. Strawberries were their favorite, then huckleberries, and last, red raspberries and blackberries whose briers would tear at the clothes and skin of the girls. The daughters of Joseph and Leah Olden were also devout berry pickers.

The girls of both families would pack a basket of food and meet once a week for a walk over to the Fairbanks' farm. A dense grove of trees separated the berry picking site from the watchful eyes of Mr. Fairbanks. The girls would pick their berries as fast as they could and with as little noise as possible until the sun was high overhead. They would scoot as though the devil were chasing them to one of their home farms, and breath sighs of relief as they looked for the perfect spot along a brook to have a picnic. After the girls devoured most of their picnic lunch, they stretched out on the grassy bank along the brook. One or two of the younger girls might fall asleep, but the others would talk and dream about boys.

On one such afternoon, Johnathan Olden was hunting pheasants for the supper table when he accidently spotted the bright colors the girls were wearing. He quietly walked toward them and recognized his sisters at once. "Who is that pretty red head, farthest away?" he wondered. It was Amy Dix! He had not seen her for more than a year. How she had changed! She was beautiful and all woman! Not wishing to seem intrusive, he cleared his throat. The girls startled upright rearranging their clothes. That is, all except Amy Dix, who continued sleeping, awakening only from the voices of Johnathan's sisters, ordering him to go away and to leave them alone.

Three years later, after a frustrating "off again-on again" courtship, amy agreed to marry Johnathan. They were married about 1820 in

Whitingham and their daughter, Anna, was born the following year. There were complications with Anna's birth, which left Amy unable to bear any more children.

Apparently, Amy outlived her husband, Johnathan Olden. She died 6th December, 1857 or 1859 in Whitingham, VT. (Amy Dix's father, Jonathan Dix, was the constable for the town of Whitingham during the late 1780s and early 1790s.)

The Dix family experienced a couple of tragedies in later years. Sylvester D. Dix, a 29-year-old nephew of Amy, committed suicide on Christmas day, 1863, by hanging himself from a rafter in a barn. Another nephew, 61 year old Truman Dix, fell from a load of logs and was killed when the sled passed over his body in 1880.

Anna, Jonathan and Amy (Dix) Olden's only child, was reported to have married twice. She had no children, and died of "dropsy" (excess body fluid) about 1900 in Brattleboro, Windham County, VT.

Chapter 23

Daughters: Betsy, Hannah, Sylvia Roxy and Electa Olden

Betsy, born ca 1789 in Guilford, Windham County, VT was the first of five daughters born to Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) Olden. Being the oldest, she appreciated her mother's stories about her life as a young girl in Halifax. Betsy was a dreamer, dreaming of what she probably never would experience, see or have. She would encourage her mother to tell the same stories over and over. Each time her mother would add a little more flavor to the story knowing that her Betsy applied it to her dreams.

Betsy Olden married a neighbor boy Joel Jillson. It was a happy but short marriage. Betsy died just before Christmas in 1821 leaving her husband with three children under the age of five. They were: Lucinda, who later married Amos Kingsbury, Irene, who married John Murphy and William who married Sarah E. Whitney.

Hannah, born ca 1798 in Guilford, the Olden's next daughter was the serious minded girl of the sisters. She could quote dozens of verses from the Bible before she was seven years old. Hannah was a natural leader such as organizing the berry picking outings, summer family picnics and popcorn bashes in the winter for neighboring young folks.

Hannah also married a local boy, Joseph Burrows, and they had three children; Lunancy, who married Harris Smith, Betsy C., and Susannah who married Parley Stone.

The sixth child of the Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) Olden family in Whitingham was Sylvia, born 1799 who was married to Timothy Jillson of Whitingham in 1820 by E. Smith, Justice of Peace, from Readsboro. They had eight children, all born in Whitingham: Joseph, born 1820, married Cynthia C. Coonradt; Sarah, born 1823; James, born 1825, married Lestina Polly Dix; Lewis, born 1827, married Sarah E. Chase; Samuel C., born 1830, married Sophronia C. Hartbone 1869; David, born 1839, married Fidelia Burrows; Horace T., born 1842; and Lester D., born 1845, married Mellisa L. Pike, 1874.

Sylvia Olden Jillson died in 1874. Timothy continued farming

until his death shortly after 1876. Timothy Jillson was the son of David and Sarah (Cudworth) Jillson of Whitingham.

Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) Olden's seventh child was Roxa or Roxy, born 1802 and married first to John McDaniels in 1822 at Readsboro. She was married a second time to Eber Burrows in 1827 in Whitingham by Amos Brown, Justice of Peace. Only one child is recorded for Roxa, a son with Eber Burrows. His name is Gilbert and he never married.

It is interesting to note that Eber Burrow's brother, Hiram Burrows, married Irene Culver, the sister of Ruth Culver who married John Olin, son of Reuben Olin/Olden. John Olin and his family resided a few years in New York State before settling permanently in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania.

The youngest daughter and eighth child of Joseph and Leah (Cudworth) Olden was Electa, born 1805, who married Clement Porter from Heath, MA. It is believed that this marriage provided just one child, a son, Joseph Porter, born 1824 who married Lousia Craft, born 1827. They had no children and resided in North Deerfield, MA.

The Joseph Olden family of Whitingham and Readsboro, VT has not been documented very well in the records for the towns, villages or in the two counties, Windham and Bennington. Confusion exists, not only in the Olden family, but also in the marriages associated with other families particularly: Cudworth, Jillson, Dix, and Burrows, where many intermarriages occurred. I must admit to giving to fudging a few names and dates that made sense to me. However, I feel that in doing so I have really provided a starting place for continued searches.

CHART - 6 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
Joseph OLDEN (4)
Leah Cudworth

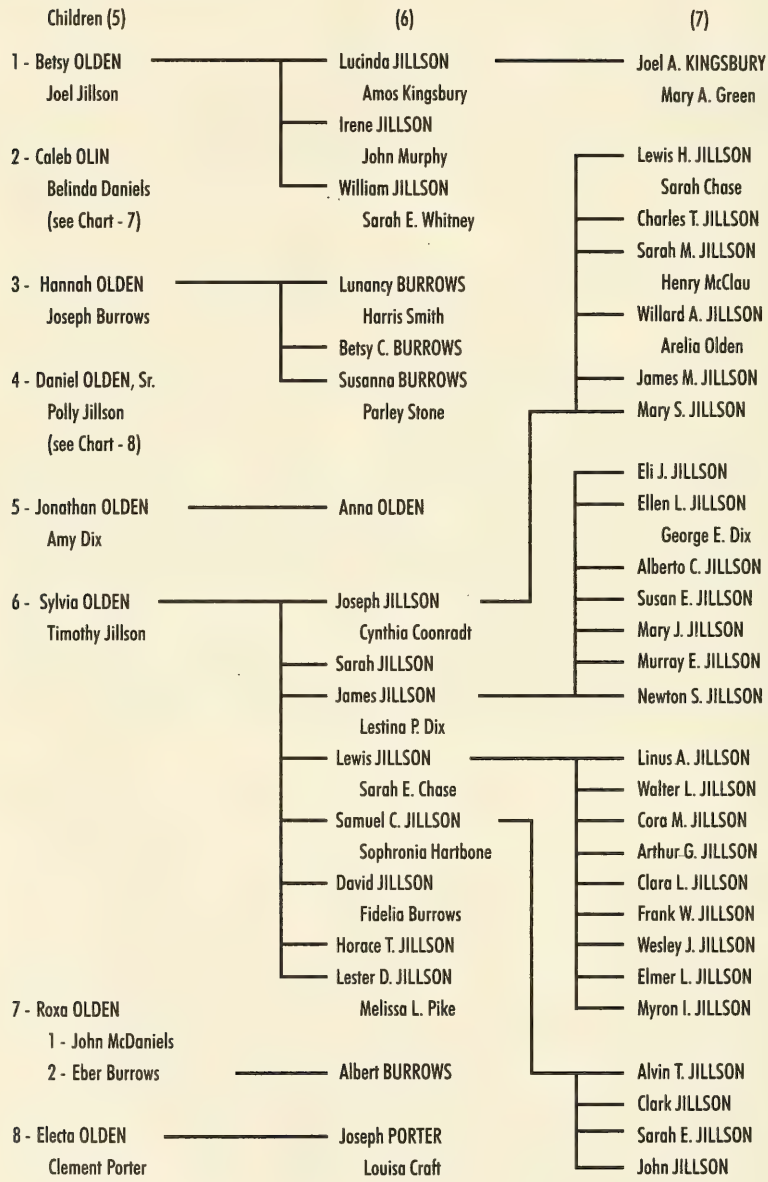


CHART - 7

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

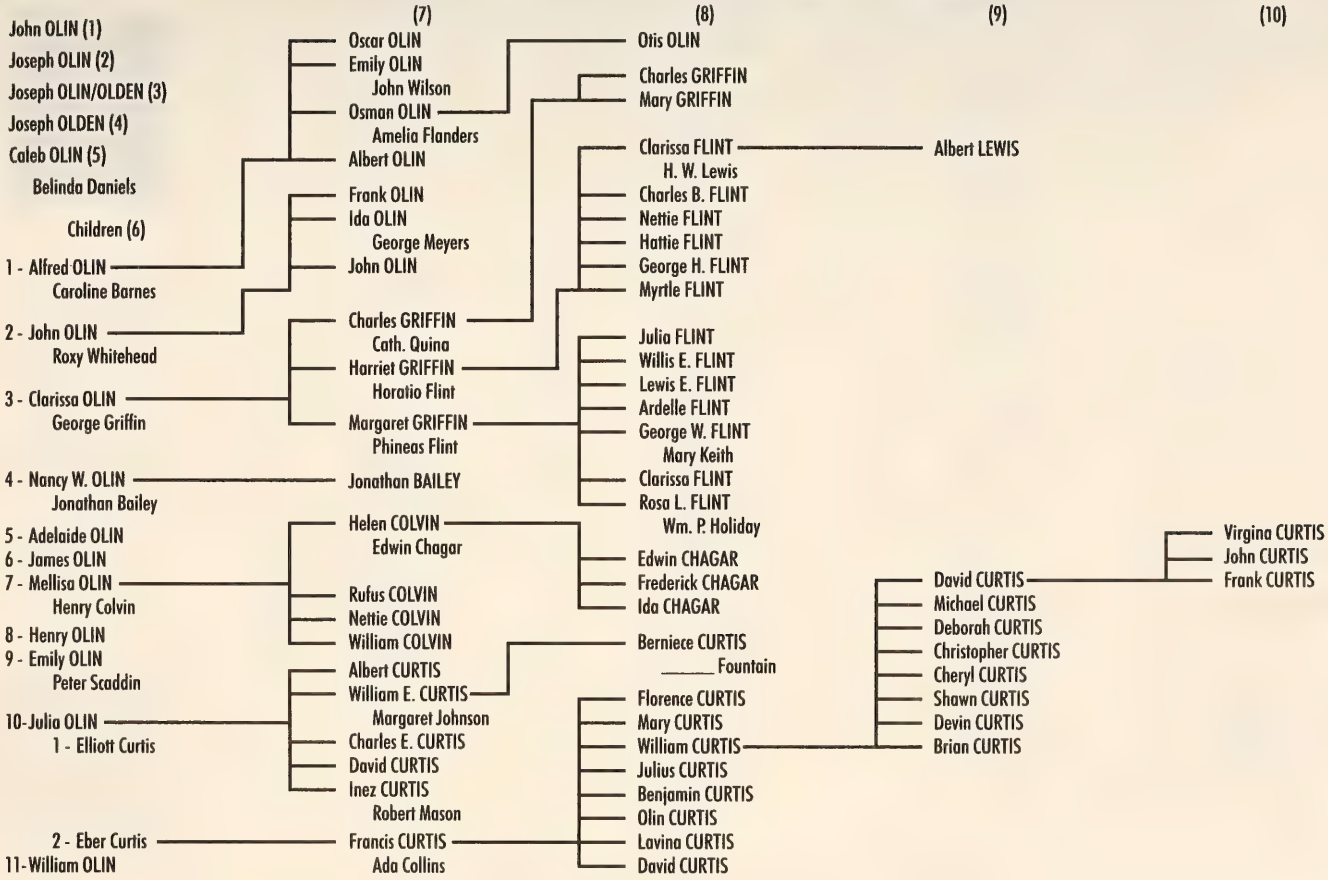


CHART - 8

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
Joseph OLDEN (4)
Daniel OLDEN, Sr. (5)
1 -Polly Jillson

Children (6)

1 - Mary OLDEN
_____ Grout

2 - Daniel OLDEN, Jr.
1 - Elvira Tenney
2 - Amy _____

3 - James M. OLDEN
Abigail Greene

4 - Henry M. OLDEN
Elmina L. Dix

(7)

Enos OLDEN
1- Sarah Handy
2 - Isadore Starkey
Charles OLDEN
Lucinda OLDEN
Merritt E. Bullock
Esther E. OLDEN
William B. OLDEN
Amelia OLDEN
Nealous A. OLDEN
Calvin D. OLDEN
Fanny L. Flynn
Caroline OLDEN

Arelia OLDEN
Willard Jillson
Joseph J. OLDEN
Maria L. Willard

Lucina OLDEN
Alexamder Duke
Melans A. OLDEN
Ella A. OLDEN
William E. OLDEN
Emma M. OLDEN
_____ Betts
Charles D. OLDEN
Andross A. OLDEN

(8)

Lillian M. OLDEN
Charles Martin
Lewis E. OLDEN
Edith Smith
George H. OLDEN
Laura Knight
William A. OLDEN
1 - Nettie Brimmer
2 - Esther Knight
3 - Bertha Abbott
Fred A. OLDEN
Hattie Gates
Leroy E. OLDEN
Esther Hale
Floyd R. OLDEN
Bertha Cobb
Frank H. OLDEN
Myrtie Ashley
Jesse E. OLDEN
1 - Martha Ladd
2 - Helen Atherton

Lizzie M. OLDEN
Harold H. OLDEN
Minnie OLDEN
Bertie A. OLDEN
Jessie_____
Nora S. JILLSON

Wilton D. OLDEN
Edith A. OLDEN
Mabel W. OLDEN

(9)

Lewis G. OLDEN
Bertha V. Kinne
Mabel E. OLDEN
Ned R. Simpson
Dana E. OLDEN
Beatrice Barrett
Louie OLDEN
1 - George Bashaw
Harry OLDEN
Ernest OLDEN
Bessie OLDEN
John Cook
Samuel OLDEN
Grace Stone
Elizabeth OLDEN
Joseph Banning
Lillian OLDEN
Carrie OLDEN
Fred OLDEN
Minnie Wheelock
Marjorie OLDEN
William Wagner

Kenneth L. OLDEN
Ralph N. OLDEN
Louise E. OLDEN
Isadore M. OLDEN
Horace P. OLDEN
Maurice D. OLDEN
Marcline_____

Helen R. OLDEN
Herbert Wilcox

(10)

George L. OLDEN
Evelyn A. Smith
Gilbert E. OLDEN
Heather Townsend

PART VI — Joseph OLDEN Family in Whitingham, Vermont

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PART VII

William OLIN Family in Chenango and Steuben Counties, NY

"The average man receives public recognition
Only twice in his life;
With his birth certificate
And with his obituary,
Neither of which he can read."

—Anonymous

Chapter 24

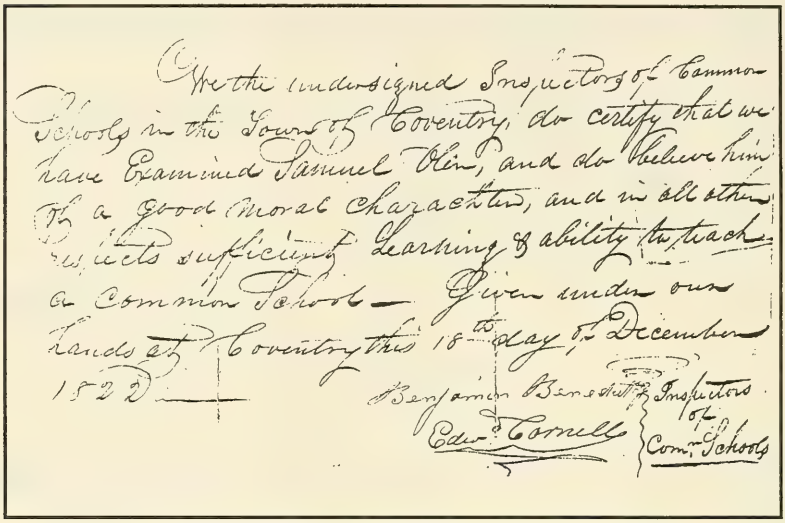
Son, Samuel, Educator, Doctor and Farmer

Samuel Olin, born 1 July 1799, was the first child of William and Lucy (Pollard) Olin who resided in Jericho, now named Bainbridge, Chenango County, NY. Although his parents had moved around within the county several times, Samuel was fortunate to complete a full eight years of schooling in the Afton schools. Upon graduation, he applied for and was accepted by the Bainbridge School District in 1816 to teach in one of their one room schools. Samuel taught in the Bainbridge School District for six years before succumbing to the restlessness inherited from his father. In 1822 he taught in a Town of Coventry school in Chenango County, and the following year, he taught in a larger school in the Town of Kortright in Delaware County.

By 1824, 25-year old Samuel recognized the futility of trying to make a living for a family on teachers' wages. He could barely support himself. Assessing his education, his teaching experience, and his satisfaction in working with children and their parents, Samuel decided to pursue higher education in the field of medicine.

Samuel Olin made arrangements with a small medical college located in Fairfield, Herkimer County, NY to study the text book portion of the courses necessary for a doctor's degree while he

continued teaching in the schools. In the fall of 1825, he enrolled full time at Fairfield for his "hands on" portion of his medical training.



We the undersigned Inspectors of Common Schools in the Town of Coventry, do certify that we have Examined Samuel Olin, and do believe him to a good Moral character, and in all other respects sufficient Learning & ability to teach a Common School — Given under our hands at Coventry this 18th day of December 1822 —

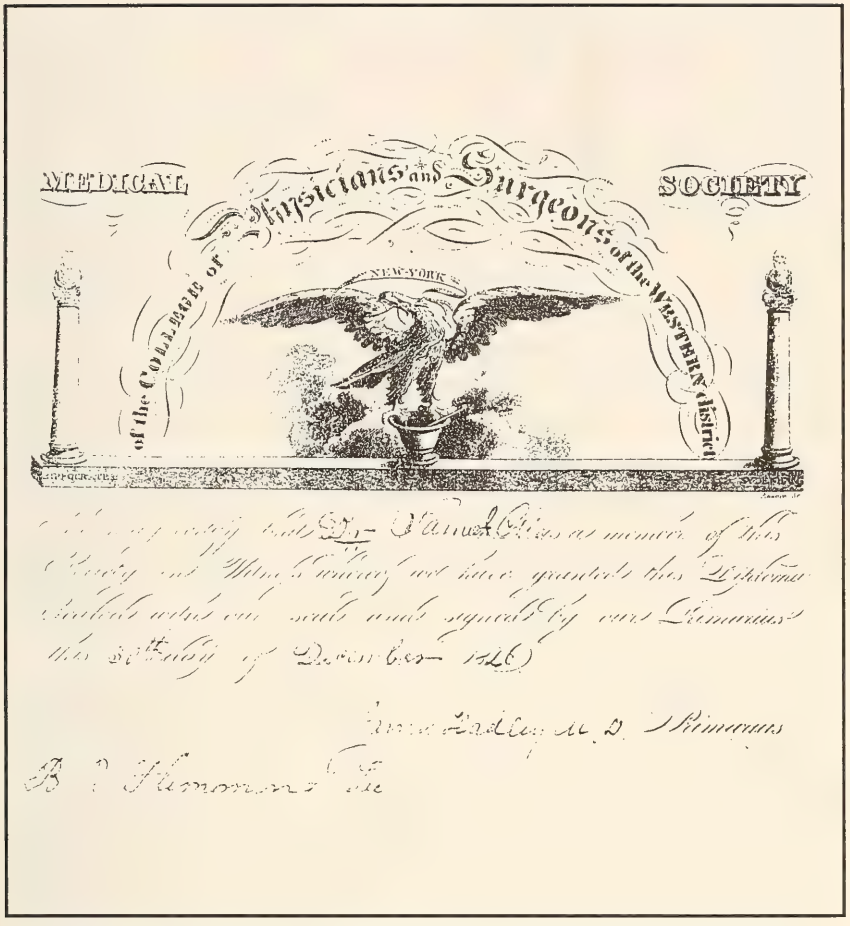
Benjamin Benedict } Inspectors of
Edw.d Cornell } Com.n Schools

In 1822 Samuel Olin taught school in the Town of Coventry, Chenango, County, NY for one year.

Greetings to the Reader

We, in the State University of New York, the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor and the Regents of this University, confer upon SAMUEL OLIN, who has completed all the requirements in the School of Medicine, and upon the recommendation and the excellent testimony of our professors in the College of Medicine and Surgery, located in Fairfield, indeed confer upon him the DEGREE of DOCTOR with the highest honors in medicine, together with all the rights and privileges to practice and to teach and with all the honors attached to the Degree of Doctor. Therefore, by authority vested in us, we place our signatures and the seal of the Common (State) University, at Albany, in the 57th year of the Republic and on the 6th day of February, in the year 1833.

The above is the English translation of Samuel Olin's certificate issued in Latin by the Chancellor and Regents of New York State University allowing him to practice medicine and surgery. He graduated from Fairfield Medical College, January, 1827.



1826 authorization for Samuel Olin to practice medicine, Western, NY

His training included anatomy, case studies, trade magazines, human muscles, skeleton, and organs, lectures on medicine, midwifery, surgery, auscultation, hospital diagnostics, and dressing of out-patients and so on. Besides written examinations, Samuel needed to face at least three examiner boards for oral tests. The Fairfield school apparently aided students in identifying communities in need of doctors, because Samuel left before graduation for a visit to Hornellsville in Steuben County, NY. The residents of Hornellsville welcomed Samuel as their sorely needed doctor and the newly formed Medical Society of Western New York accepted him as a member on 30th December 1826. He hurried back to Fairfield College, completed his oral examinations, and received

his diploma on 10th January 1827 which allowed him to practice as a Physician and Surgeon in New York State. Yet, it was six years later before the Chancellor and Regents of the NYS University officially recognized Samuel's efforts by awarding him another diploma clearly stating his Doctor's Degree.

Twenty-seven years old, Dr. Samuel Olin met the girl destined to be Mrs. Samuel Olin while making a house call to the Stephens family in Canisteo, a small village south of Hornellsville. She was 17 years old, Pamelia Stephens, the youngest of ten children reared by Colonel John and Olive (Franklin) Stephens.

Colonel Stephens, born in Saratoga County, NY, bought land in Chemung (then Ontario County) to become one of the 12 proprietors of "Old Canisteo Castle" formerly the site of a sizable, well-stocked Indian village with a recognized ruling hierarchy. In 1822, John Stephens built the mill known as Stephens Mill on Bennett Creek. He was Town Clerk of Canisteo from 1809 to 1812 and Captain, eventually promoted to Colonel, of the local Militia Company. He died in 1837 and his wife, Olive, died in 1848.

Olive Franklin had migrated from the State of Connecticut with her parents to "New Connecticut"; a large tract of land starting near the west side of the Delaware River running from east to west through the upper one third of Pennsylvania adjacent to the New York border. Obviously, legalities involving existing territorial rights suppressed landlocked Connecticut's attempts to expand westward. Meanwhile, Indians, encouraged by English supporters, attacked the new settlement in the Wyoming Valley of the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania. The Franklin family lived in this valley and experienced the horrible Indian attack and massacre. Olive's mother and a brother were killed, but she and the rest of the family were rescued. One of the rescue party was Captain John Stephens, who became obsessed with the beautiful Olive Franklin, daughter of Lt. Roswell and Jerusha (Hicock) Franklin. He promised to return after the Revoluntionary War ended and she promised to wait for him. The Stephens/Stevens family not only became good friends of the Olins over the years, but several marriages occurred between the families.

Samuel Olin and Pamelia Stephens were married in January, 1828, in the new home of her parents in Greenwood, ten miles south of Canisteo in Steuben County. A year later, Dr. and Mrs. Olin relocated

to Ossian in the neighboring County of Alleghany. While in Ossian, Dr. Olin started to make journal entries regarding his medical practice. He listed his patients' names, problem, treatment, and his fee. His first journal, labeled "A", began May 8, 1829. It had 84 pages with over 1600 entries in a two-and-a-half-year period. Dr. and Mrs. Olin returned to Hornellsville the first of December 1831. Either the community of Ossian could not support a full-time doctor or the area was too far removed from the activities and excitement of a more thriving village.

In 1834, word reached the Olins that Samuel's father, William, was seriously ill. They gave up their rented house in Hornellsville and rushed to his father's home in Greene, Chenango County, NY. While attending to his father's needs, Samuel decided to set up a medical practice in Greene. His father slowly regained his health and lived for ten more years. Samuel was not able to make progress in Greene as a doctor because there were already two entrenched doctors servicing the Greene area.

Consequently, Samuel had time on his hands and became not only interested but involved with his father and brother's attempts at farming. The widely read doctor "let his hair down", pitching in to help with dairy, sheep and crops. He established breeding cycles for the cows and ewes. He encouraged herd and flock improvements by being more selective with the bulls and rams. Samuel discovered a new love: farming, with its daily and long-term challenges. His wife, Pamelia, their daughter, Ann Vernette, who was born in 1831 back in Ossian, and their baby son, Marcello, who was born just before the family left Hornellsville, enjoyed the love, attention, and bountiful food at William and Lucy's farm. Samuel and Pamelia (Stephens) Olin listed their residence as Greene for the 1835 New York State Census.

Pamelia received a letter from her mother that her father was seriously ill and wished to see her and his grandchildren. Dutifully, Samuel took his family back to Hornellsville in 1836. Pamelia's father, John Stephens, died the following year and was buried in the Greenwood Cemetery. Pamelia gave birth to another son, Frederick Marshall Olin, in 1839. The Olins also adopted a young girl, Sabrina, who was born in 1829, making the Olins a family of two daughters and two sons. Samuel reestablished his medical office in Hornellsville with the blessing of the Western New York Medical Society in 1838.

Two of Dr. Olin's proven home remedies for bites appeared quite often in his journals. He devoted a couple of pages to special concoctions and working remedies. He recommended applying the juice of an onion to a fresh bee bite to relieve the effects of the sting. For frost bites, he applied pure peppermint oil to the affected areas. Dr. Olin's fee for pulling an infected tooth varied 13 to 20 cents with the depth of the root. His professional medical records filled four large journals over 25 years.

Dr. Olin was elected Superintendent of Hornellsville School Districts in 1845 and 1847. He was accepted into Hornellsville Lodge #331 of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons as a Third Degree Master Mason in 1846. Later, he became a Knight Templar, recognized as the highest degree in the York Rite of the Masons.

For reasons known only to him, Samuel began to lose interest in the medical profession. It appears that at times he had neither patience nor patients. Perhaps he was feeling restless again. In 1850, Samuel and Pamelia moved again, this time to the vacant house of her parents in Greenwood, a few miles south of Hornellsville. In Greenwood, Dr. Olin supplemented his medical practice with a mercantile business and a hardware store. The Olins were not poor; they paid their help well and had good credit. While in Greenwood, Samuel made the decision to purchase land and start a dairy farm.

He acquired 158 acres of land outside of Hornellsville on Crosby Creek Road at the foot of Wellever Hill. He had a large, two-story house built that had both a summer and winter kitchen. His new dairy barn was large with a full basement for a dairy and horses, and a huge upper-story for hay storage. Samuel Olin established himself as a dairy farmer.

Although Samuel continued entering doctoring notes into his journals, he began entering notes about his growing farming activities. In 1859, he harvested 100 bushels of peas, 25 bushels of wheat, 25 bushels of rye, 120 bushels of oats, and 40 bushels of buckwheat. The following year his yield almost doubled and he paid $85 for threshing. His dairy breeding records were to the point: "The blue cow, three years old, went to bull."

As Samuel's doctoring practice declined, his enthusiasm for and success of his farm operation increased. Dr. Samuel Olin died in 1869 at his farm on Crosby Creek Road, happy to be recognized in Steuben

County's Directory as a farmer rather than as a doctor. His wife, Pamelia, (Stephens) Olin, and his son, Frederick Marshall Olin, continued to farm, because they knew that Samuel would appreciate it. Frederick Marshall kept up the journal data, but not as thoroughly as his father. The Olin farm is owned by descendants of Samuel and Pamelia Olin.

ANN VERNETTE OLIN

The only natural daughter of Samuel and Pamelia Olin was Ann Vernette, born 1831, in Ossian, Alleghany County, NY. She received a good education in the Hornellsville Schools and helped her father on occasion in his office and accompanied him on his rounds by horse and

Ann Vernette Olin married Jedediah M. Baker shown on the right in this four generation photo. One of his daughters, Mae Baker Lawrence, is on the left and one of her daughters, Nelle Lawrence Baker is holding 4th generation, William George Baker.

—Photo Courtesy of Nadeane Pemberton

buggy through the countryside until her marriage in 1853. Ann's husband, Jedediah M. Baker, born 1830 in Canisteo, was the son of Jeremiah and Hila (Stephens) Baker. Jeremiah Baker was a fourth cousin, one generation removed, to Ann Vernette through the Stephens family.

The newly-wed Bakers had planned to live only a short while with his parents, but, instead, continued to live with his elderly parents for seven years. In 1860, a year before the War between the States broke

out, Jedediah and Ann Baker moved west to settle on a farm in Oakland Township, Franklin County, Iowa. Twenty-two years later in 1882, Jedediah took his family north to South Dakota, homesteading in Beadle County, their claim was about six-and-half miles southwest of the Town of Bonilla.

The Baker's first child was Wilford, born in 1854 in Canisteo, Steuben County, New York, who married Eva Wilt in Franklin County, Iowa. Their children were: Sylvaina, Roy, Mildred, Jean, and Jedediah. Wilford died in Kerman, Fresno County, California.

Jedediah and Ann Vernette Baker's second child, a daughter, Helene, who the family called "Allie," was born in 1862 in Oakland County, Iowa. She married — Carr and had two daughters; Lucia Vernette and Louella. Allie died before 1900, probably in Iowa.

Jedediah and Ann Vernette (Olin) Baker's third child, another daughter, May, was born 1865 in Popejay, Franklin County, Iowa. She married Alvin Billings Lawrence on New Year's Day, 1884 in Wessington, Beadle County, South Dakota, over 300 miles from Popejay, Iowa. Alvin B. Lawrence was born 1861 in Parma, Jackson County, Michigan, son of Richard and Lucina (Fassett) Lawrence. He and Mae had three daughters: Nelle Beatrice, Ruth, and Vernette.

Alvin B. Lawrence was one of twelve children and name after Alvin Billings, a friend and mentor of his father. His father was a Methodist Episcopal Circuit Rider Minister back in Jackson County, Michigan. Alvin and at least three of his brothers came to Hand County, South Dakota in 1883. His eldest brother, Henry, was a clergyman like his father while the others kept busy as farmers. Alvin had a farm near the Beadle County line next to the Baker Homestead. He met Mae Baker during the harvest season dinner and soon after he married her, and took her to his homestead farm across the county line. A couple of years later, Alvin and Mae Lawrence moved on to the Baker farm with her parents and combined the two farms into one larger operation.

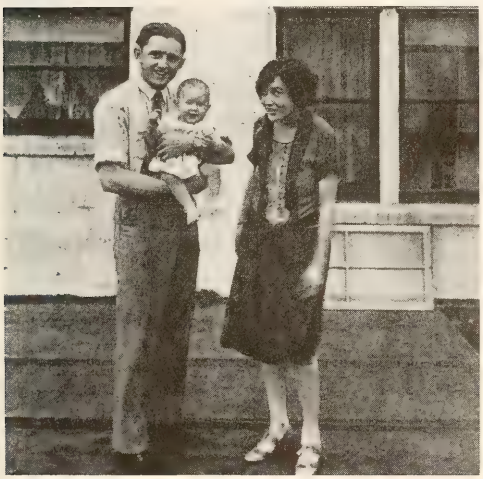
A few years later, Jedediah and Ann Baker left the South Dakota farm in the capable hands of their daughter, Mae, and son-in-law, Alvin, and moved into the Village of Bonilla. Still later, they moved again, this time to the neighboring Village of Wolsey where Jedediah operated a lumber yard. He erected a grain elevator in partnership with S. F. Corley, the husband of his youngest daughter, Jennie. Upon retirement from active work, Jedediah and Ann relocated to the large City of Huron, living in a lovely home called "The Gables." The cold, severe winters of South Dakota were hard to take so the 70-year oldsters escaped in 1907 to the sunny and fertile San Joaquin Valley north of

Fresno, California. This is another fine example of the OLIN Family migration, coast to coast in America.

Alvin and May's marriage proved to be a disaster after their children left home. May obtained a divorce from Alvin, charging "Desertion and Failure to Provide Common Necessaries of Life." Alvin then married Nora Eaton in 1909, in Beadle County, SD. He went into the creamery business in Alpena, SD where he died at age 80. May left South Dakota to live with her parents in Fresno before moving on to Los Angles, CA where she met and married William G. Rutledge in 1910. Neither of the second marriages produced any children.

Alvin and May Lawrence's three daughters were born on the Baker farm in Bonilla, Beadle County, South Dakota. Nelle Beatrice Lawrence, born 1885, married Francis William Baker in 1903, at Wolsey, SD. Francis was born 1879, in Chicago, Illinois, son of William and Ella Adeline (Doolittle) Baker. Nelle died, 1929 and her husband, Francis, died 1937, both died in Los Angeles County, CA and were buried in Sunyside Mausoleum, Long Beach, CA.

Francis and Nelle (Lawrence) Baker's oldest child, a son, William George Baker, was born 1905, in Marshalltown, Marshall County, Iowa.



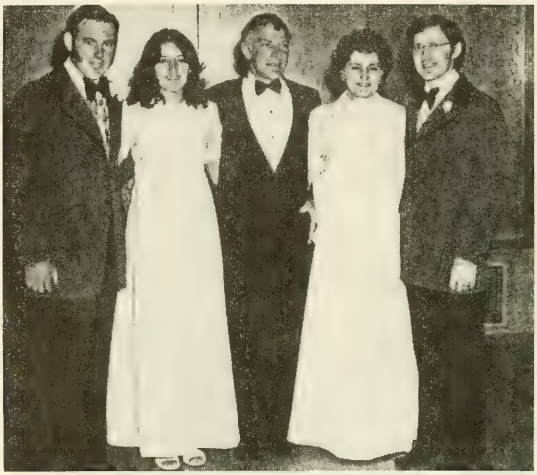
William George Baker and Lillian Murray Baker with their happy little Nadeane Baker in Long Beach, CA, ca 1926.

—Photo Courtesy
Nadeane Pemberton

His parents had moved from SD to Iowa and then to California where William was introduced to Lillian Gail Murray. She was born 1906, in Meford, Gant County, Oklahoma, daughter of Edward C. and Rita E. (Riggs) Murray. They married on 1 June 1925 in Long Beach, CA, and had just one child, a daughter, Nadeane Beverly Baker, born 5th May 1926, in Long Beach. Twenty years later in 1946, Nadeane married a Texan, Charles David Pemberton.

Charles D. Pemberton was born 1924, in Electa, Wichita County, TX, son of Cleve and Johanna (Westerterp) Pemberton. The marriage of Nadeane and Charles produced three Pemberton children who produced a dozen more children.

Charles David Pemberton II, obviously named after his father, was born in 1946, a year after World War II ended, and married in 1966 to Linda McMullen, born in 1948, daughter of Ernest and Pauline (Ingraham) McMullen. They had a son, David Brian, born in 1967 in Long Beach, CA. Charles D. II, and Linda were divorced in 1972 in



A 1975 photo of the Pembertons and their three children. Left to right: Terry Lou, Gaile Ann, their parents, Charles David Pemberton and Nadeane Baker Pemberberton, and Charles David II.

— *Photo Courtesy Nadeane Pemberton*

Long Beach. Charles remarried, this time to Vicki Gant in 1975, at Long Beach. Vicki was born 1953 in Englewood, CA, daughter of Frank and Katherine (Bouwhuis) Gant. This marriage produced six more Pemberton children: Rachel Marie, born 1976, Long Beach; Shari Nadeane, born 1977, Long Beach; Melissa Kay, born 1979, Portland, OR; Aubree Lynn, born 1982, Portland, OR; Stephen Charles, born 1985, Portland, OR; and Michael James, born 1991, Denver, CO.

Nadeane and Charles D. Pemberton's second son, Terry Lou, born 1948, married Lynda Ann Bryant in 1966 at Wichita Falls, Texas. She is the daughter of Merrick Foster and Erma Nevada (Dexheimer) Bryant of Bridgeport, Mono County, CA. Terry and Ann Pemberton had two children: William Merrick, born 1967, Bridgeport, CA; and Laura Johanna, born 1970, in Abilene, Texas.

Nadeane and Charles D. Pemberton's third child, their only daughter, Gaile Ann, born 1951, married Kevin Lee Meier, born 1955,

Kansas City, Kansas. He was the son of Bruce and Willie Pearl (Clevenger) Meier. The Meiers had three children: Todd Murray, born 1970, Carson City, Nevada; Jason Lee, born 1977, Salem, Oregon; and Erik Edward, born 1980, Salem, Oregon.

Returning to the Francis and Nelle Baker's family, the second child, a daughter, Mae Baker, was born in Marshalltown, Iowa. She married Ted Lawrence, later divorcing him and married Robert Hurt. There were no children from her first marriage, but her second marriage yielded five Hurt children: Robert (Sunny), Frank, Francelle, Georgia Mae, and Lonnie.

Referring back to the Jedediah and Ann Vernette (Olin) Baker marriage, we pick up their daughters May and Jennie. First, we show May Baker and Alvin Lawrence's second daughter, Ruth Lawrence, born 1887 in Bonilla, Beadle County, Iowa. She married Harley Thompson in 1904 and shared in the raising of four Thompson children: E. L.; W. W., C. G., and Opal who married — Russell. Ruth died in 1969 in Alpena, South Dakota. May Baker and Alvin Lawrence's third daughter, Vernette Lawrence, born 1889 in Bonilla, South Dakota, married — Harley. Vernette died 11 days after giving birth to a son, Jack Harley.

Jedediah and Ann (Olin) Baker's youngest daughter, Jennie Baker, was born ca 1869 in Popejay, Franklin County, Iowa. She married S. F. Corley and lived in Huron, South Dakota where her husband erected large grain silos in partnership with Jedediah. The Corleys had two children: Grace, who married — Sutton and Abigail who married — Walsh. Jennie Baker Corley died in Huron, South Dakota.

MARCELLO OLIN

Samuel and Pamelia (Stephens) Olin's second of four children was a son, Marcello, born 1836 at Hornellsville, Steuben County, New York. He received his education in the Steuben County School System when his father was Superintendent of the schools. Marcello worked as a laborer at various jobs in the county. One job in particular was to help lay the tracks for the new railroad running through southern New York State. In 1855, at 21 years old, he considered himself a man of the world; he married Eunice Webb of Hornell and immediately took her west to Platte City, Platte County, Missouri. Their farm consisted of choice, river bottom land subject to flooding during high waters of the Missouri River. The Olins could look across the Missouri River and

see the lands of Kansas State. The children who survived the rigors of life along the river were: Clem, born 1862; Clara, born 1864; Frank Rylan, born 1866; and Gertrude May, born 1870. The only additional information regarding these children born during the conflict of the Civil War relates to Frank Rylan Olin.

Frank Rylan Olin was born in Platte City, Platte County, Missouri and married Katherine Elizabeth Smalledge. Frank had returned to Steuben County to visit his grandmother, Pamelia Stephens Olin, who was in her nineties. Pamelia was very happy to see Frank. He overstayed his visit because his grandmother was beginning to fail in health. The young robust, grandson found time to become acquainted with Steuben County girls and met Katherine in Bath, the Steuben County Seat. Frank and Katherine were married shortly after his grandmother's death in 1892. They had just one child, Frank S. Olin, born 1898 in Hornell, NY and died 1968, in Youngstown, Ohio. Young Frank S. Olin married Leona June Benedict in 1930. She was born, 1906 in Warren, Ohio. Frank S. and Leona Olin had one child, Rex Gene, born 28 May 1941, in Youngstown, Ohio before their divorce in 1948. Rex Gene Olin married Tsurue Kinjo, born 3 June 1933, Okinawa, Japan on 9 November 1966 in Okinawa.

Frank Rylan Olin died 1923 in Orrville, Wayne County, Ohio, south of Akron. His wife, Katherine, also died in Orrville, two years earlier in 1921.

Marcello and Eunice Olin returned to Steuben County shortly before his mother's death and purchased a small farm next door to her farm. Marcello died at Hornell in 1894. Eunice Webb Olin traveled to California where she died in 1919 in Los Angeles, probably at the home of one of her children.

FREDERICK MARSHALL OLIN

Samuel and Pamelia (Stephens) Olin's third natural child was Frederick Marshall Olin, born 1839. He received his schooling in the Hornell Academy. Frederick M. married Mary C. Stephens at Hornell in 1862. She was born in 1842 in Canisteo, daughter of Abram M. and Margaret (Geer) Stephens, and a cousin to Frederick M. Frederick M. proved to be a dedicated farmer as he took over the Olin farm on Crosby Creek Road after his father's death in 1869. He was known for his timely and accurate predictions, particularly regarding the weather.

His favorite prediction, especially during haying season, "When all the cows are lying down and don't want to get up, there will be a bad storm." Frederick M. and Mary continued to make a comfortable home for his mother. He served his community as a Trustee of Schools and belonged to Hornellsville Lodge #31 of F. S. & A. M.

The OLIN Farm had 100 acres of forest with a good stand of hemlock. The large hemlocks were cut for lumber logs and the bark peeled and sold to a tannery in Canisteo. Frederick M. and Mary discovered that the farm soil supported abundant growth of berry bushes. They planted, harvested, preserved and sold raspberries, strawberries and blueberries to supplement their income.

One day, Frederick M. Olin decided to take the train to Michigan to visit some of his Olin cousins. Instead of returning home by train, he rode a special horse that he had purchased in Michigan. It seems that Frederick was partial to high-spirited horses and was always on the lookout for a fast horse; he was a natural horse trader. Years later when his son, Frederick, M. Jr., brought home a new 1917 Chevy car and took his father for a ride on the open road, Frederick M. Sr. asked, "Is this as fast as it can go? My horse can go faster than this!"

Mary C. (Stephens) Olin died 1916, three years before Frederick Marshall Olin; both are buried in the Hornell Rural Cemetery.

FREDERICK MARSHALL, JR.

Frederick Marshall, Sr. and Mary C. Stephens had just one child, a son, Frederick Marshall, Jr., born in 1873 who married in 1906 to Golden Smith, born 1884, daughter of Simon and Alice (Tuller) Smith. Simon Smith was a well-known veterinarian, a school trustee, and a member of the election board. Frederick M. Jr. attended the Crosby Creek School located next door to his home. His grandfather, Samuel Olin, had given a 99-year lease for a school site when he originally purchased the land in early 1850. The schoolhouse burned in 1884. The trustees passed a resolution to rebuild on the old foundation at an estimated cost of $200.

Frederick M. Jr.'s son, William Simon Olin, known in the family as Uncle Bill, told about his father's great strength. He was well used to hard work and was very muscular. He was able to swim across Silver Lake while in his late forties.

In 1917, a neighbor, Joseph Knapp, was visiting Frederick M. Jr.

when they decided to go look at new automobiles. By the end of the day, they both owned brand new 490 Chevy touring cars. The Chevy came in handy when Uncle Bill became 13 Years old and a capable driver he was called upon to pick up people on Election Day to take them to the polls to vote.

Frederick M. Jr. and his wife, "Goldie" enjoyed square dancing, and were never known to miss Saturday night's dance. One day while splitting wood to sell, Frederick M. Olin, Jr. caught an ax handle in his coat, deflecting the ax blade which cut his thumb completely off. He had the doctor bandage it up and he and Goldie went to the square dance that same night. He also like to play cards and checkers. No one in the Olin family or in the valley were ever known to have beat him in checkers.

Frederick M. Jr. continued dairy farming during the depression years. Farmers were striking to gain a higher price for milk with little results. The Olins established a thriving cord wood business until customers failed to pay. Consequently, in order to support his family, Frederick M. Jr. went to work for the New York State Highway Department in 1930 received $3.20 for a ten-hour day. In 1937, he suffered a major stroke while he and his hired man were using a cross-cut saw. He died a few days later in 1937. His wife, Golden, died in 1955, and both are buried in the Hornellsville Rural Cemetery.

Frederick and Golden had four children, all born in Hornellsville, Steuben County, NY: Alice May, William Simon, Frederick (Fred) Marshall, and Fredosa Alicia. Alice May Olin was born 1907 and married Edwin L. Flint in 1925. The Flints had five children: Edwin Frederic, born 1925, Goldie E. born 1928, William Irvin, born 1931; Elwin Lee, born 1936; and Gene Lee. The Flints purchased the small farm next to the OLIN Farm where Marcello Olin lived.

William Simon Olin was born in 1908 and married Bernice Miller in 1934. William often told stories about his Smith grandparents. Whenever William and his brother and sisters would visit Grandma Smith at Weber's Crossing, they were met and stopped at the door by their Grandma. She would say, "You look 'peaked.' A good dose of Burdock Bitters will straighten you up." She would grab a spoon and a bottle of foul tasting burdock bitters and make each one take his or her dose before being allowed to enter her house.

Grandpa Smith owned much land around Webbs Crossing including Riaus Pond which was quite large and had a huge portion of floating sediment with growing sod. Grandpa once lost a team of horses when they broke through the pond's surface muck.

The OLIN Farm had a small building across the road that they used for a blacksmith and repair shop. The mechanically-minded Olins kept their machinery in repair and shoes on their horses, and they never turned down a neighbor who needed their help. All of Frederick M. Jr. and Golden's children were proud of their home, the same house that their great grandfather, Dr. Samuel, had built. There was a great porch that ran from the woodshed around to a bedroom door on the back side of the house. Flagstone walks surrounded three-quarters of the house. The family was also proud of their spirited horses, buggies and sleighs. They were the only family on Crosby Creek who took flying rides to and from the Village of Hornell.

Uncle Bill, William S. Olin always found time to help someone or to just to visit. Many nights his own chores would not be done until 10 or 11 o'clock. He helped his brother, Fred M., with the OLIN Farm long after he had a farm of his own. During the 1940s, the brothers hauled feed, grain and lime for the local GLF (Grange League Federation) to supplement their farm incomes. During World War II, there were higher costs of living, shortages of food, clothing and fuel subject to government rationing, and shortage of manpower needed for the war efforts.

Uncle Bill was a self-made musician. He specialized on the violin or the "Fiddle" as he called it. After his death, Uncle Bill's fiddle was given by his wife, Bernice, to Dale Olin, a nephew whom she knew would use it and always treasure it. Bill loved to hunt and fish and tell tall tales and stories of the good, old days, often with a sense of humor involving free-hand drawings.

William Simon and Bernice (Miller) Olin had a daughter, Cheryle D., born in Hornell who married Michael E. McMahon. Cheryle and Michael McMahon have two children: Shane, born 1967 and Shannon, born 1971. Shannon McMahon married _____Sutton and had two sons. William S. Olin died in 1980, and his wife Bernice D. Miller, died in 1987 in Hornell.

Frederick Marshall and Golden (Smith) Olin, Jr's third child was

Frederick (Fred) Marshall Olin, born 1917 in Hornell and married Della Jane Silsbee in 1938 at Hornell. Della was born 1922 in Howard, a small village east of Hornell. She was the daughter of Andrew and Cora L. Silsbee. Her mother died when Della was three years old. her father never remarried. He raised Della and her sister on his farm at Bent Hill. Some years later he moved to Canisteo where he became recognized as a first-class carpenter.

Fred M. and Della (Silsbee) Olin's children were: Fred Duane, born 1940; Gerald Lee, born 1941; Ronald Dale, born 1950 and died 1954; and William Andrew, born 1959. (Note: This OLIN Family has three direct generations of Frederick Marshall Olins. Within the family each were often referred to as Senior or Junior Frederick or Fred or as Marshall. For reader clarification, I have used Frederick M., Sr. and Jr. for the first two generations and Fred M. for the third generation.)

Fred D. Olin graduated from Alfred-Almond Central School in 1958 and married Donna Howard in 1961. Donna was born in Canisteo, 1943.

"Uncle Bill" William S. and Bernice (Miller) Olin celebrate their 45th Wedding Anniversary in 1979 with their daughter, Cheryle and her husband, "Mike" Michael E. McMahon and children, Shannon and Shane.

Ten years after her marriage to Fred D. and after having her four children, Donna began driving a school bus part-time for the Hornell School District. She is presently driving buses full-time and working in the school's business office. Their four children are: Debra Lynn, born 1963, died 1963; Donna Sue, born 1964; Dale Lee, born 1968; and Janet Lorrain, born 1969, who is married to William White.

Fred D. worked on the OLIN Farm; he helped his father for 26 years from the time he graduated from high school in 1958 until 1984. He left the farm for a better paying job as a mechanic in local garages,

but, after five years of inside work, he decided that it wasn't the place for a farm boy used to the outdoors. Fred D. presently works for the Steuben County Bridge Department and loves every minute of it.

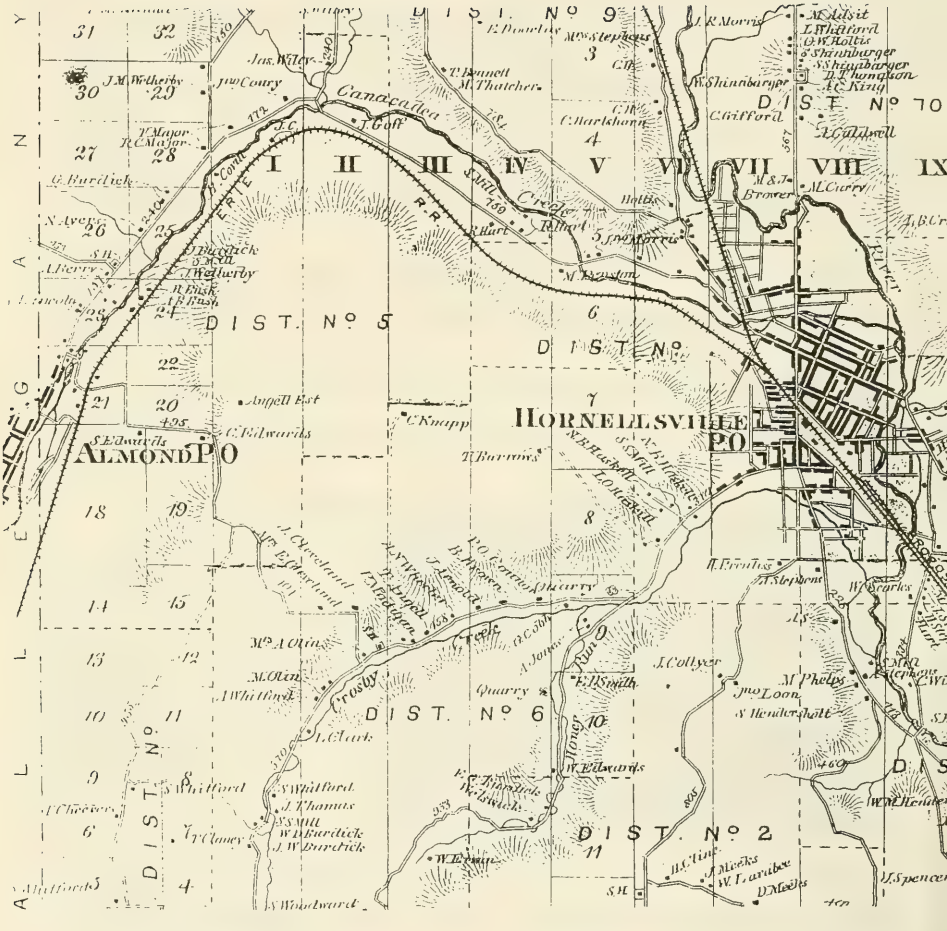
In 1946, local schools consolidated leaving the old, one-room schoolhouse vacant on the OLIN Farm. Fred D. and Donna took it over when they married and, with the help of his grandfather, Andrew Silsbee, remodeled it into a two-story home with modern conveniences. Twenty-seven years later, in 1988, Fred and Donna purchased 50 acres a few miles from the Olin farm. With the help of his wife and children, Fred built a new ranch-type house with two-car attached garage. Their son, Dale, bought his parents' old, school-house home and expects, some day, to raise a family of his own.

Fred D. Olin recalls a few events in his early family life: "Dad said that the first telephone was installed on the farm about 1920. It hung on the wall with two dry cell batteries and a hand crank. The phone line was owned and maintained by the people themselves. Everyone had to assist in setting of poles, cutting brush and limbs, and stringing the wire. A telephone company took over in 1948 and provided phones that let you tell the operator the city and person's number you were trying to call. It was 1965 when we had the new dial-type phone.

Electric service was installed on the farm in 1946. Dad and an electrician were trying to get wires upstairs through the partitions. I remember they removed a couple of boards from each room upstairs. They had Gerald or me (Fred and Gerald were six and five years old respectively) crawl along between the ceiling joists (2 x 8s) and retrieve what they had pushed up from the first floor. We took turns because neither of us like that job.

Dad had a milking machine in the barn that was driven by a gasoline engine. I remember doing chores at night using two kerosene lanterns. In 1947-48, Dad ran the electric service to the barns. It surely seemed good to have the stables well-lighted and a quiet-running milking machine. I can still remember the times when the old engine would not start. Dad made the air blue even before the engine started.

Dad and Grandpa used horses as their main source of field power. Other than a gasoline stationary engine to buzz wood or chop silage, the team was it. In 1945-46, Dad bought a Fordson tractor. It was probably 20 years old then. Uncle Bill bought one shortly after that. A couple of years later, Dad bought a Famall F20 and Uncle Bill

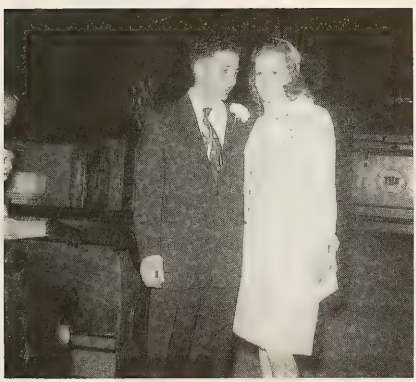


1880 map of a portion of Town of Hornellsville, Steuben County, NY. Crosby Creek flows basically, west to east, into the Village of Hornellsville. The original OLIN Farm started by Dr. Samuel and Pamelia (Stephens) Olin is located on Crosby Creek Road. It is shown here that Mrs. A. Olin is the resident owner. That is in error; it was Mrs. S. Olin, widow of Dr. Samuel Olin. One of their sons, Marcello Olin, lived next door and later the Flint family took it over. The road running north through the OLIN Farm has been abandoned, but was known as OLIN Road. The one room school house has been remodeled into a home for today's Olins is shown. The ninth generation Olins attended high school in the Alfred-Almond Central School District.

bought a Famall F12. After that, they both bought Allis Chalmers and stayed with them. I have always been ribbed about Chevys and Allis Chalmers, but it's a OLIN Family tradition: "If it was good enough for Grandpa and Dad, then it's good enough for me."

Fred D. continues with his family stories: "In 1956, Gerald and I began playing in a round and square dance band; Gerald played the guitar and I played the fiddle. Gerald could play and sing, but I never got that good. If I opened my mouth to sing, I would automatically stop playing. We played at Grange Halls, Fire Halls, etc. We never made much money but had a lot of fun. I remember a lady saying one night, 'This is the first dance I ever went to where the band had as much fun as the dancers.' We have had our own band for several years. Our son, Dale, has become an excellent steel guitar player and has played with a country band (off and running) for four years. Our daughter, Donna Sue, plays drums in our square dance band. My brother Gerald does the calling, 'The first couple three hands around with the second lady, allemande left, etc.' Donna and I still enjoy country music and go dancing quite often."

Fred D. finishes: "Gerald and I were always interested in old cars. In 1953, we found a 1928 Chevrolet. The folks bought it for us and we restored it. I bought Gerald's half and still have it. Our son, Dale, is restoring a 1931 Chevy sports-coup that has been in the family over 40 years. My brothers, Gerald and William, are interested in and have antique cars."



Gerald Lee Olin and his bride, Beverly Ann Clark on April 10, 1965.

—Photo Courtesy of Gerald L. Olin Family

Gerald Lee Olin, the second son of Fred M. and Della (Silsbee) Olin was born in 1941, in the Town of Hornellsville and graduated from the Alfred-Almond Central School in 1959. He worked with his father on the OLIN Farm until his marriage to Beverly Ann Clark, born 1945 in Sayre, PA, daughter of William and Anna (Cowel)

Clark, in 1965 at Hornell. Gerald is a good, ambitious mechanic, truck driver and heavy equipment operator, working for the Town of Hornellsville Highway Department.

Fred Duane Olin and Donna Howard just before their marriage in 1961.

—Photo Courtesy of Gerald L. Olin Family

Beverly works second shift at the Phillips, formerly Westinghouse, glass factory in Bath, NY making light bulbs.

Gerald and Beverly Olin's children, all born in Hornell are: Michael Eugene, born 1963; Gerald Lee, Jr., born 1965; and Linda Jane, born 1968. Michael Eugene Olin married Naomi Hulfar in 1984 at Oceanside, CA. Naomi was born 1967 in Oceanside, CA and died 1992 at Fort Sam Huston, TX. Michael and Naomi Olin's children are: Michael Juan, born 1985 in Groton, Connecticut, and twins, Ronald Coty and Brandon Allen, born 1987 in Oceanside, CA.

—Photo Courtesy of Gerald L. Olin Family

Four generations of Olins. Left to right: Gerald Lee Olin, his father, Fred Marshall Olin, Gerald Lee Olin, Jr., and little Dustin Lee Olin in April 1987.

Michael Eugene Olin married again to Leoney Nedic, born 1967, in the Philippines.

Gerald Lee Olin, Jr. married Jean Hamilton, born 1957, Olean, NY, at Hornell in 1985. They have two children; Dustin Lee, born 1986; and Brittany Mera, born 1989, both born in Hornell, NY.

Fred M. and Della (Silsbee) Olin's youngest son, William Andrew Olin, married Jeanna Johnner, born 1960, daughter of Harold Johnner and Dolores Flint. Their marriage took place in Hartsville, 1981. William and Jeanna's children are Andrew William Olin, born 1988, and Samuel William Olin, born 1991, both in Hornell.

Like his brother, William Andrew graduated from the Alfred-Almond Central School. He stayed on the OLIN Farm and worked for his father. After his marriage, William and Jeanna lived in a dwelling near his father's large house and continued to help with the farm. The dairy cows were sold in late 1993, and William went to work in an auto repair shop in Hornell.

Frederick (Fred) M. Olin suffered a stroke in 1993. He sold his dairy cows and gave up farming in general. His wife, Della Silsbee, had died may years before in 1965 at age 43. Fred M. was very fortunate to have sons who felt obligated to their father and to the OLIN Farm. This a fine example of a family staying together without the need to migrate to other parts of the country. The OLIN Farm can be defined as a New York Century Farm, well over a hundred years in the OLIN Family. It began with Dr. Samuel Olin to Frederick M. Olin Sr. to Frederick M. Olin, Jr. to Frederick (Fred) M. Olin with no end in sight. Olin sons and grandsons live close by creating the possibility that the OLIN Farm on Crosby Creek Road in the Town of Hornellsville, Steuben County, NY will remain in the OLIN Family for many more generations.

Frederick M. and Golden (Smith) Olin's youngest daughter was Fredosa Alicia Olin, born 1919 and married in 1936 to Gates P. Miller. The Millers had four children: Gates Powell Miller, born 1936, Dennis Miller; Mary Miller who married Carl Tucker; and Jeanne Miller, who married John Travis. Fredosa Alicia Olin Miller died 1976, and is buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery, Canisteo, NY.

Samuel Olin and Pamelia Stephens's adopted daughter, Sabrina Olin was born 10 July, 1829 and was married to Rev. C. W. Cornwell in 1869. They left Hornellsville, NY for the State of Wisconsin.

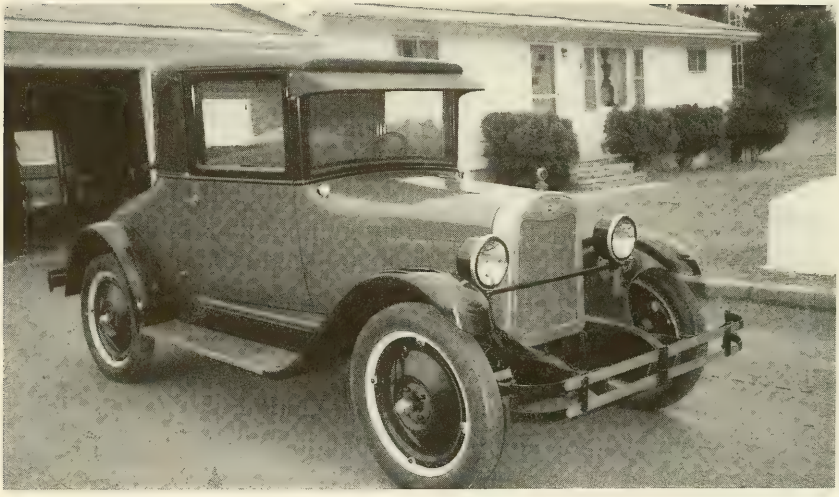
Music to Dance by

STARLITE RAMBLERS

Round & Square

Jerry Olin - 607-324-0407 Fred Olin - 607-324-5966

Dan Soles - 716-335-2115



—Photo Courtesy of Gerald L. Olin Family

1925 Chevy rebuilt by Gerald Lee Olin shown at his home on Crosby Creek Road in Hornell, NY.

Chapter 25

Son, William, and Daughter Harriett Olin

The second child, a son, Jeremiah born 1802 to William Olin and Lucy Pollard in Jericho or Bainbridge, Chenango County, NY, died at age 23 in 1825 in Greene. We have not been able to find the reason for his death.

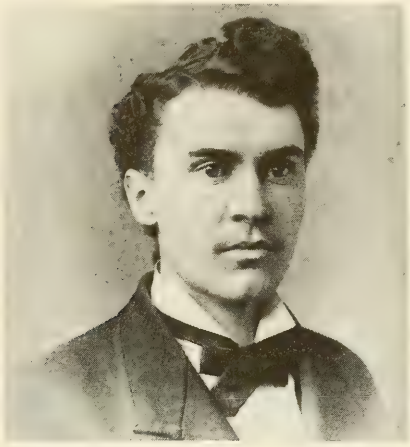
HARRIETT OLIN

The third child, a daughter, Harriett, was born 1804 in Jericho and was married about 1823 to James V. Humphrey, a son of the noted timber and lumber dealer, Thomas S. Humphrey, of Chenango and Delaware Counties, NY. Thomas S. Humphrey was the first for this branch of Humphreys to arrive in Chenango County, 1790, settling in Jericho. He was born in Sunsbury, CT and moved to a large farm in the Town of Beekman, Dutchess County, NY. He left five slaves behind when he and his family ventured across the Catskill Mountains into the peaceful Susquehanna River Valley. He became a lumber man, and contracted with local people to buy or deliver the highly prized pine and fir logs for demanding and paying markets along the Atlantic coast. He took advantage of two major rivers to float the logs, either down the Delaware River to Philadelphia or down the Susquehanna River to the Chesapeake Bay. One of his children, James V. Humphrey, continued with the logging and timber business long after his father's death in 1839.

James V. Humphrey was born 1799 in Jericho, grew up in the Bennettsville area, and eventually acquired a small farm of his own in Afton. He and Harriett Olin raised their six children in Afton, Chenango County, NY. Their children were: William T., born 1824; James M, born 1826; Charles J., born 1829; Henry D., born 1831; Harriett A., born 1833; and George T., born 1835.

William T. Humphrey graduated in the spring of 1848 from Albany Medical College in Albany, NY. His first practice was in Addison, Steuben County, NY and stayed about six months before he moved

across the NY/PA State Line into Tioga County, to a little Village of Elkland. His parents, James V. and Harriett (Olin) Humphrey, had just moved from Chenango County to Tioga County, PA where James



Dr. William T. Humphrey Lived on a farm in Steuben County, NY just across the Pennsylvania border. He maintained medical offices in Osceola and Elkland, Tioga County, Pa. Dr. Humphrey also served as the Surgeon for the 149th Pennsylvania Volunteers of the Union Army during the Civil War. William T. Humphrey was the son of James and Harriet Olin Humphrey. Harriett was a sister to Dr. Samuel Olin of Hornell.

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

expected to find virgin timber to fill his orders. The parents decided to stay permanently in Osceola, another small village west of Elkland. William T. also moved to Osceola in 1897.

Meanwhile, William T. Humphrey was mustered into the Union Army on June 21, 1861 and was promoted to Surgeon for the 149th Pennsylvania Volunteers on 5th September 1862. He was discharged by special orders on 17th January, 1865, at which time he returned to his medical practice in Elkland. William T. Humphrey's wife, Mary B. (_____) Humphrey, survived his death in 1897 and she died after 1908. William T. and Mary had three known children: George F. Humphrey, who operated a jewelry store in Addison; Harold P. Humphrey, a mining engineer with residence in Elkland; and Wilmot G. Humphrey, an 1880 graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, MD. Dr. Wilmot G. Humphrey established his office in Osceola until 1897 when he move to Elkland. He was married to Sarah G. _____.

James M. Humphrey left Chenango County in favor of Anoka, a small village in Minnesota. He married Olive E. Church of Bainbridge in February of 1856. Olive was born in 1836 and died in 1922 in Anoka. James was still alive in Anoka in 1898. His father had deeded him some property in the Bainbridge area in 1853 before his marriage.

Shortly after the Civil War, James and Olive left for Minnesota. Their two children were: Frank L., born 1859 in Woodhull; and Celia M., born 1863 in Binghamton, NY.

Charles J. Humphrey remained in the Bennettsville area of Chenango County until his death in 1902. His father had deeded him some land in 1852, and Charles quickly married Eunice A. (Corbin) Kirby, a widow. They had two surviving children: Minnie A. Humphrey, born 1860, and Arthur B. Humphrey, born 1866 who lived his life in the Bennettsville community. Charles J. Humphrey was an industrious and successful businessman. He owned and operated several different types of mills on Bennett Creek which flowed west into the Susquehanna River. His mills produced flour, grists, feed, lumber, shingles, and cider.

Henry D. Humphrey's history has not surfaced. However, his death in January, 1863, suggests that he may have died serving the Union in the War between the States.

Harriett A. Humphrey's history is limited to a surname of a possible marriage to a Mr. Heath.

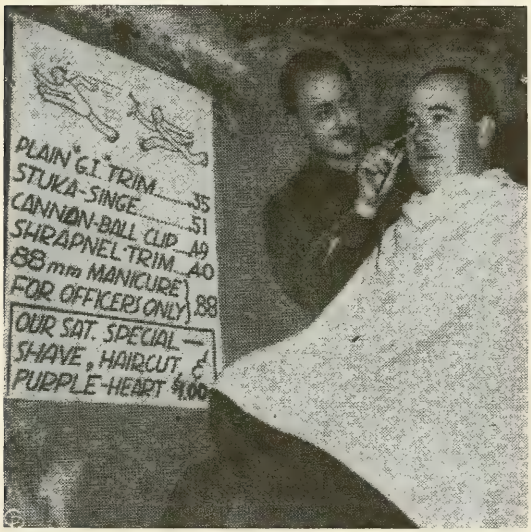
George T. Humphrey was still living at Galeton, Potter county, PA in 1898. Potter County is adjacent to Tioga County and was the heart of the booming timber business during the last half of the 19th century. We suspect that he may have been looking after his father's interest in Potter County.

By the mid 1800s, virgin timber had been removed from Chenango and Delaware Counties, NY. James V. and Harriett (Olin) Humphrey decided to try their luck in Tioga County, PA where virgin timber was reported to be abundant. The terrain created a problem for the lumbermen. Deep ravines and steep-sided mountains required special equipment to harvest the prized logs. Steam powered winches and locomotives of questionable safety were installed, but the timbering business was successful. James V. and Harriett established their home in Osceola and were fortunate to have so many of their children living nearby. James died in Osceola, 1883. Harriett's date and place of death is unknown.

WILLIAM OLIN

William Olin and Lucy Pollard's fourth child was William, born 1807 in Jericho, Chenango County, NY. He attended the common

schools in Chenango County and was inclined to be restless, much like his father. In his earlier years, he worked as a laborer for others rather than trying to support himself and a family by farming. William followed his brother, Samuel, to Steuben County where he met Sarah Bonds. Sarah was born in Vermont, about 1808, and she married William Olin in Hornellsville about 1831. The 1850 census for Hornellsville , Steuben County, NY lists William Olin, Sarah, his wife, Sarah, his 83-year-old mother-in-law, and four children: Julia, born ca 1832; William H., born ca 1834, who may have married Emily G. Payne on 8th December, 1861 and eventually moved to Williams County, Ohio; Lucy P., born ca 1838; and George E. born ca 1848.



George H. Olin, son of Edwin Olin, died, age 60, ca 1982.

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

The deaths and other details about this family are sadly lacking. It is thought that the family relocated to Rochester, Monroe County, NY. A family tradition claims that a William Olin made a fast trip to the gold fields of California. Which William that was is anybody's guess. A William Olin is listed in the 1850 census as living in Placerville, Modesto County, CA, the heart of the gold fields.

Chapter 26

Son, Franklin, Tries Farming in Woodhull

William and Lucy (Pollard) Olin's fifth child was Franklin Olin, born 1810 in Jericho, Chenango County, NY . His marriage around 1832 to Catherine Van Orsdale, born 1811, resulted in seven children of which all but the youngest were born in Greene, Chenango County, NY. The children born in Greene are: Augustus, born 1833; Harriet, born 1835; Edward, born 1838 and died 1863; Lucy, born 1839; Permelia, born 1841 and died 1850; and William, born 1843.

Franklin and Catherine Olin lived about ten years in Greene where he worked as a laborer until, in 1841, he signed an agreement to work a farm in the Town of Lisle, Broome County, NY where their youngest son, Franklin, Jr. was born. Young Franklin married Mary J. Putman and had three children: [See note at end of chapter.] Three years later, encouraged by his brother, Samuel, and Catherine's brothers, the Olins moved from Broome to Steuben County. It was understood that his younger brother, Edwin, would gain possession of their father's farm in Greene when William died, which happened in 1844. Franklin took his family to Hornellsville late that year. In 1853, the three brothers, Samuel, William and Franklin released all rights to their father's estate in favor of their brother, Edwin C., who promised to provide a comfortable home for their mother, Lucy, until her death.

By 1850, the Franklin Olin family had moved from Hornellsville to a 120 acre farm on Pultney Hill, Town of Woodhull, south of Hornellsville. Shortly after his move, their daughter, Permelia, died and was the first of many Olins to be buried in the Woodhull Cemetery. However, 1850 was the beginning of prosperous years for farmers in Steuben County, dampened somewhat by threats of war between the northern and southern states.

In 1851, the New York and Lake Erie Railroad was completed. It ran through Steuben County from Dundee, on Lake Erie, to the Ports of New York and New Jersey. It competed against the canal systems by delivering goods faster and cheaper. Live fattened beef cattle could be hauled by train from the stockyards in Dundee overnight to city

markets, making one stop in Campville, Tioga County, NY for feed and water. The resultant slaughtered beef was cheaper and considerably more tender. The railroad opened other markets also for farmers of Steuben County, particularly for dairy farmers who now could send fresh milk, cream, butter, cheese and eggs. Eventually, the trains added ice cars and then refrigerated cars. This encouraged higher production of milk.

Franklin, with help from his sons, was able to buy the 120-acre farm in 1867 and the Olin family was recognized as successful dairy farmers.

During the middle of September, 1873, Franklin decided to make a trip by wagon to Corning, about 22 miles east of Woodhull. He needed some rolls of barbed wire and sheep fencing. He took his son, William, with him. He hoped to be a successful bidder at an auction for a couple of nice, young heifers for their dairy. Since it was dusk before the wire was loaded, Franklin made arrangement to stable and feed the horses and their three new heifers for the night while he and William secured a room in a nearby hotel. The next morning, the whole town was buzzing about a grounded, hot-air balloon five miles north of Corning. The Olins, caught up in the excitement of such a rare event, joined the crowd traveling north to Thomas Oldfield's farm on Post Creek. What a sight! It was a monster of a balloon tethered with several cartloads of stone.

The giant airship "Buffalo" had taken off at 3 pm the previous day from Buffalo, NY, piloted by the intrepid aeronaut, Professor S. A. Buff, and accompanied by four newspaper reporters. The men rode in a large wicker gondola suspended below the air bag. The balloon had traveled six hours over many small mountains and large valleys in a southeasterly direction for approximately 120 air miles, before it landed and was made secure in an upright position. Two days later, Professor Buff's balloon, "Buffalo", ascended and drifted another 100 air miles in an easterly direction, descending in the hamlet of Preston, near Oxford, Chenango County, NY. The $3,000 airship remained near Oxford a week before make two more runs.

When the Olins returned home and described the unbelievable sight, word circulated throughout the Olin family. It so happened that the "Buffalo's" landing near Oxford created the same sense of awe for Edwin, Franklin's brother back in Greene. The Chenango Canal ran in

front of Edwin's farm. He had taken his family from his farm below Greene by packet boat north to Oxford on an all-day trip to see the giant balloon. They really had no need for their picnic hamper because food vendors were set up for a thriving business.

AUGUSTUS OLIN AND HARRIET OLIN

Franklin and Catherine (Van Orsdale) Olin were proud of their children, especially the two sons who served in the Civil War. Their first son, Augustus, born 1833, married Adeline _____. They had three children: Arvilla, born 1862; Lucy, born 1868; and Catherine, born 1873. Augustus lived on Pine Street, Woodhull, while working as a stationary engineer in 1891.

Franklin and Catherine's daughter, Harriet Olin, born 1835, married Charles Wilhelm, born 1834. The Wilhelm family lived a mile west as the crow flies from the Olin family. Harriet died in 1914 at Woodhull and Charles died in 1896. The Wilhelm's had a daughter, Ina, who married Fred Hoecker and they in turn had two daughters, Inafred and Florence Hoecker.

EDWARD OLIN

Edward Olin, born 1838, enlisted as a private in Company A of the 1st Pennsylvania Rifles, known as "bucktails," on 11th June, 1861. This colorful Company was recognized for its determination to hasten the end of the Civil War. A letter written to his parents, dated 5 February 1862 from a camp in Virginia had this verse as the letterhead:

We have come from the mountains
We have come from the dales
This our country's flag we will sustain
As long as our names are "Bucktails."

The "Bucktails" were men of good stature, hardy habits, skilled in the use of the rifle and who wore the bucktail with pride. Their distinguished service during the first year of the war set the pattern for other regiments to follow. Although Edward enlisted for three years, he was given a disability discharge for a lung ailment in December 1862. He died at home in Woodhull, the 17th of January, 1863, and is buried in the Woodhull Cemetery.

LUCY OLIN

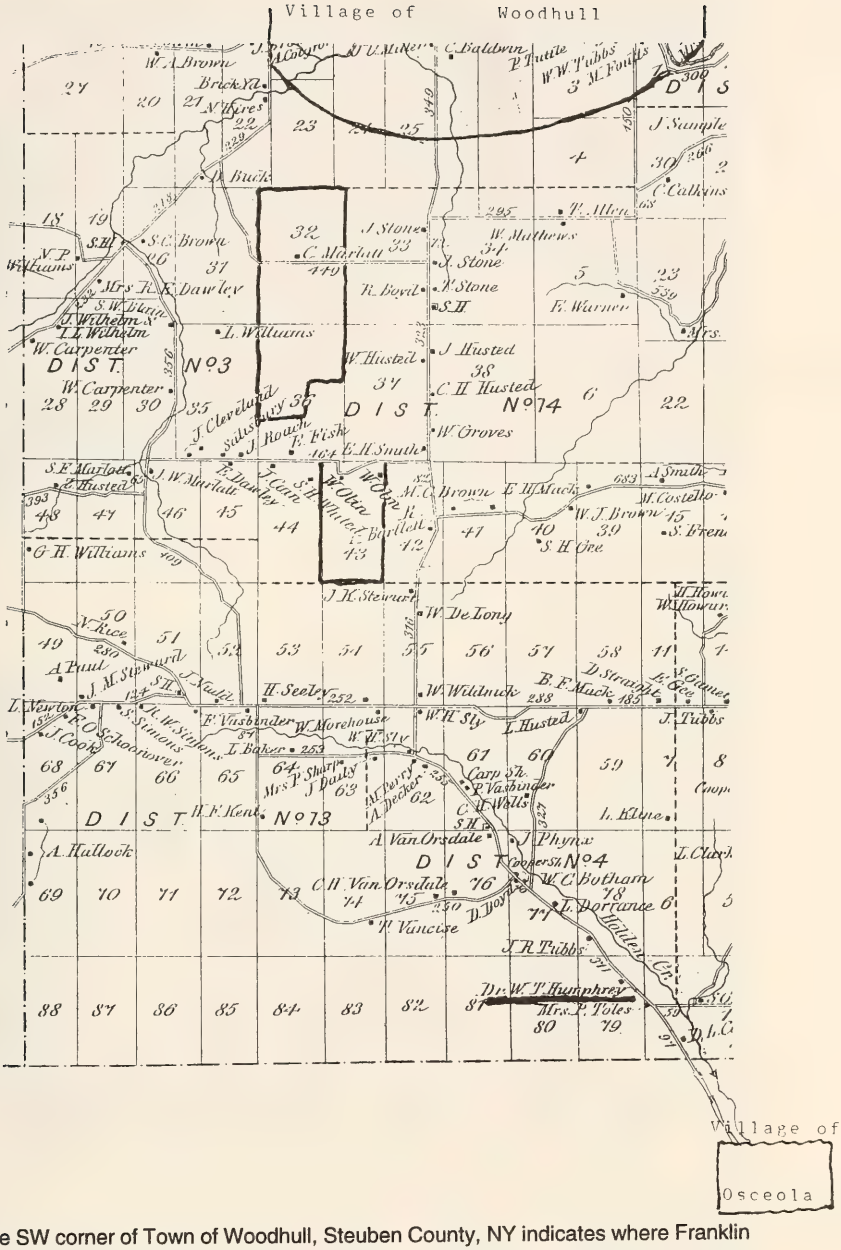
Lucy Olin, born 1839, married Charles G. Hutchison. Charles was born 1834 in Francistown, NH. When he and his parents arrived in Jasper, Steuben County, NY, 14-year-old Charles was sent to Corning for three years to learn the art of blacksmithing. He was a blacksmith by trade in Woodhull. He was a public-minded man who was elected in 1885 and 1888 to serve as Steuben County's Superintendent of the Poor. The Hutchisons had three children: Luella H.; Abel W.; and Harlow G, who later resided in Sidney, NB.

WILLIAM W. OLIN

Franklin and Catherine Olin's sixth child and third son, William W. Olin, was born 1843, the last born in Greene, NY. He enlisted in the Union Army in August, 1864, as a private in Company F 1st NY Cavalry and discharged at the Fairfax Court House, June, 1865. He is reported to have served under General Sheridan in forage raids in Front Royal and the Shenandoah Valley and participated in many skirmishes and raids around Richmond, ending up at Appomattox when hostilities ceased. After the Civil War, William W. Olin was a member of K company, New York State National Guard's 106th Regiment, 20th Brigade and 7th Division as a Third Sergeant.

William W. Olin married Christine Stephens, daughter of Abram and Mary Stephens of Hornellsville. William was a nephew of Samuel Olin and Christine was a niece of Samuel's wife, Pamelia Stephens. Christine gave birth to a son, Ernest E. Olin, on 4th September 1874. Ten days later, on 14th September, 1874, Christine died from complications of childbirth. Baby Ernest lived with his grandparents until his father married a second time to Roselia (Wells) Olin, the widow of his cousin, Francis D. Olin, who died, 1878, in Greene, NY. William W. Olin and Roselia were married by Rev. Robert N. Park, Rector of Christ Church, at the residence of George W. Beardsley in Binghamton, Broome County, NY on 17th September, 1879. Roselia was the daughter of Orren D. and Catherine Wells of Greene, NY.

During 1868-69, Franklin Olin and his son, William W., farmed the 120 acres plus an additional 1-1/2 acres presumable purchased to accommodate another house. In 1878, Franklin sold the farm to William who brought his new wife to Woodhull. They had two



Map of the SW corner of Town of Woodhull, Steuben County, NY indicates where Franklin and William W. Olin had their 120-acre farm and where William W. Olin had his 254.29 acre farm on OLIN Road. The larger farm is still in possession of William W. Olin's grandson, Robert Olin. Dr. W. T. Humphrey lived in Woodhull, NY but practiced medicine 3-½ miles south in Osceola, PA.

children born on the farm, a daughter, Lulu P. Olin, born 1880, and a son, Sterle W. Olin, born 1882.

William W. sold the farm to Frank Smith in 1885 and bought a farm on Hardscrabble Hill near Addison. Evidently, they found it too **hard** to **scrabble** a living off that hill. The following year, William's family returned to Pultney Hill in the Town of Woodhull where William purchased three contiguous parcels, totaling 254.29 acres. This farm still remains in the OLIN Family.

By 1900, William W. Olin gave up farming in favor of a spacious house in the Village of Woodhull and a large operating sawmill near the cheese factory, also in the village. At the time the cheese factory was turning out a minimum of 20 wheels of sharp cheddar cheese a day.

Ernest E. Olin, son of William W. and Christine Olin, married Lena Mae Mead in 1902, and rented his father's farm. While living there, they had a son, Clifford LaMont Olin, born 1903 and died 1976. It is believed that Ernest and Lena Mae were granted a divorce in 1910 and Ernest lived his final years in Wolcott, Wayne County, NY.

Ernest Olin, Clifford Olin and his wife, Dorothy Pearsall Olin, 1940.

—Photo Courtesy of Roger Olin Family

Clifford L. Olin married first to Eva Ingraham, ca 1922; second to Clara Harp, ca 1932; and third to Dorothy Pearsall, 1940. Clifford's first marriage yielded three daughters.

Wilma, born 1923, married Floyd Davis. They have four sons: David; Clifford; John; and William all with the surname of Davis. Wilma and Floyd Davis operated a farm south of Brisben, Chenango County, NY for many years before selling it to a son. Floyd still helps out with the summer work or when an extra hand is needed.

Floyd E. Davis and Wilma E. Olin Davis, November 1995.

—Photos Courtesy of Roger Olin Family—

Virignia L. Olin Alger and La Vern Alger, November 1995.

Clifford's second daughter with Eva Ingraham was Virginia Olin, born 1927, married LaVern Alger and had three Alger children: Randy, Vicky, and Patty. Virginia and LaVern Alger owned and operated a small gas station, auto repair shop, and convenience store in Brisben

through most of their life. They still live in Brisben and enjoy retirement life.

Clifford and Eva's third daughter, Martha Olin, was born 1931, and married first to Edgar Russell from New Hampshire. They had four children: Thomas, Ann, Steven, and Betty.

Martha Lou Olin Decker and John Decker, 1992.

—Photo Courtesy of Roger Olin Family

Martha married again to John Decker and they had no children. Martha Olin Decker had a beautiful well-controlled voice which allowed her to sing solos for her church, at funerals, square dances, and other social functions.

Clifford LaMont Olin's second marriage to Clara Harp was childless. His third marriage in 1940 to Dorothy Pearsall provided him with a son, Roger, born 1943. Roger graduated from the Afton High School, Afton, Chenango County, NY in 1961. He enlisted right away in the United States Air Force, served four years, and was discharged in 1965. During the service years, he met and married Carol Benz, 1963, in Syracuse, NY. Roger worked 18 years for the Raymond Corporation, makers of power fork lifts. While working there, Roger worked his way up into middle management. Roger Olin is a dedicated and spirited community worker. He was the Boy Scout Leader for the hamlet of Coventry in 1970-74, President of Afton Little League, 1977-79, President of new Berlin Rotary Club, 1988-89, Secretary of New Berlin Rotary Club, 1990-93, and is currently on the Board of Directors for Chase Nursing Home, and the Board of Directors for New Berlin Housing and Preservation. In 1985, Roger purchased Sickler Memorials, a grave stone and cemetery service. He holds a license as a real-estate appraiser for New York State.

Roger Olin and Carol Benz Olin enjoyed the breezes and fishing, September 1995

—Photos Courtesy of Roger Olin Family—

Roger and Carol Olin's home and business, Sickler Memorials, New Berlin, Chenango County, NY, August 1995.

Carol Benz Olin elected to stay home the first 14 years of their marriage to raise her children. Beginning in 1978, she worked three years in the advertising department of Raymond Corporation. In 1981, she joined Agway Petroleum in Afton as their Credit Manager, serving there three years. Carol was a model mother, to her own children and with other school children and projects in and out of school. Carol was President of St. Theresa's Altar Society, 1988-92. She helped organize the New Berlin Business Association in 1987, which she has served as Secretary, Vice President, and President.

Roger and Carol Olin have three children: Clifford was born 1964, graduated from Afton High School, 1982, and Cortland State College in 1986, and married a month later to Kimberlee G. Laman. Clifford and Kim have a daughter, Amy Elizabeth, born 1991. Cliff is a full time Certified Real Estate Appraiser working for area banks and federal lending institutions. Cliff makes time to work with the athletic programs for his alma mater, Afton School System. He has coached Peewee Football, JV Basketball, and he is currently coaching Varsity Basketball. In 1993 The Susquenango Coaches voted him "Coach of the Year."

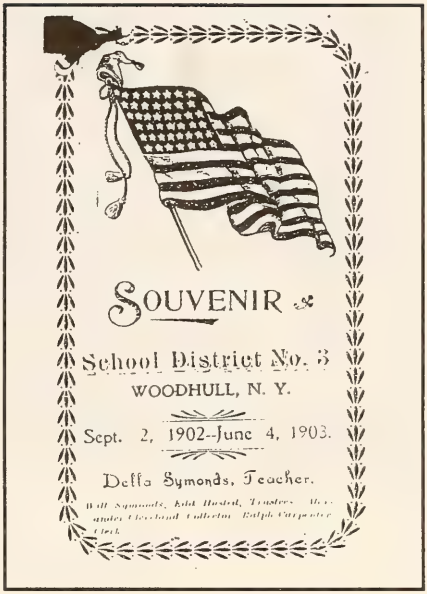
Roger and Carol (Benz) Olin's son, Gary, graduated from Afton Central School in 1983 and from New York State University at Oneonta in 1988. He gained insurance-related experience in a few major companies before settling in with the Preferred Mutual Insurance Company in New Berlin, Chenango County, NY. His title is Litigation Specialist in their Major Case Unit.

Roger and Carol's daughter, Kimberly, graduated from Afton High School in 1986. She worked seven years for the Preferred Mutual Insurance Company in New Berlin. Kimberly received her A.I.C. degree in insurance and has taken a position with the New York Central Mutual Insurance Company in Edmeston, Otsego County, NY as a Property Claims Examiner.

Returning to William W. and Roselia (Wells-Olin) Olin and their two children, Lulu P., was born in 1880 and died ca 1960 in Wolcott, Wayne County, NY. She married Arthur Fitch who died in 1956. Arthur was a professional photographer. Lulu and Arthur eventually bought a fruit farm near Wolcott.

William and Roselia's other child, Sterle W. Olin, was born on the

120-acre Olin farm in the Town of Woodhull, 1882. He married Della Ann Symonds, daughter of Radcliffe L. and Huldah A. (Carpenter) Symonds. The surname Symonds has often been known as Symons and Simons. After Sterle graduated from the Woodhull Union Free School, he worked as a clerk in BROWN & GEE General Store. Della Ann, also born in 1882, taught school in Woodhull District #3 until her marriage. Sterle and Della set up housekeeping on his father's 254.29-acre farm and sold milk to the cheese factory in Woohull.


SOUVENIR
School District No. 3
WOODHULL, N. Y.
Sept. 2, 1902--June 4, 1903.
Della Symonds, Teacher.

—Photos Courtesy of Robert Olin—

Left Rear: Della Symonds behind her sister, Maude Symonds. Right Rear: Ada Edwards and her sister, Velma Edwards. Beautiful girls under beautiful hats in 1900. Della Symonds, before her marriage to Sterle Olin, was the schoolteacher for the Brown School on the road to Troupsburg, Steuben County, NY.

Sterle kept busy with other activities, cutting and selling cord wood in the winter and hand painting signs for local businessmen during the warmer months. He, Della, and three children left the farm in 1912, to take a job for the Wickwire Company in Cortland, Cortland County, NY, and hoped to improve their living conditions. After a year of inside factory work, Sterle took his family back to the farm on Pultney Hill. Shortly after World War I, Sterle bought a Fordson tractor with plows.

In the early 20th century, the "White Plague," commonly known as "consumption" or TB (tuberculosis) invaded the Northeast with vengeance. The state governments, particularly New York, instituted two drastic actions that affected the dairy industry. In order to reduce TB risks, all milk sold on the market had to be pasteurized, and all dairy animals had to be tested for the presence of TB. Thousands and thousands of New York State cows tested positive and were slaughtered. Sterle Olin lost 13 of his 15 cows in his first test in the 1920s.

Ten years later, 1933, the large barns across the road were struck by lightning and burned. Sterle purchased a standing barn and, with the help of his young sons, dismantled it, hauled it home, and rebuilt it on the same side of the road as his house.

One of the most important events in their lives was the drilling of the Woodhull Gas Field in 1937-38. Wells were drilled all around the OLIN Farm, but none were drilled on the farm. The OLIN Farm did share in lease monies paid by the New York State Gas Company, enough to pay for a Delco electric plant that provided the Olin house and barn with 28-volt direct current and to remodel the house. The gas supply played out in three years.

Sterle and Della Ann were members of the Woodhull Grange. He belonged to the Woodhull IOOF Lodge (Independent Order of Odd Fellows). They split their religious preference: Sterle was a member of the Episcopal Church in Addison and Della was a member of the Woodhull Methodist Church. Sterle died in 1956 at Ovid, Seneca County, NY and Della died in 1962 at Woodhull, both are buried in the Woodhull Cemetery.

Sterle and Della Ann Olin raised seven children, all born in Woodhull; Kathleen A., born 1907; Radcliffe S., born 1909; Donald W., born 1912; Gertrude, born 1914; Gerald, born 1916; and twin boys, William and Robert, born 1920.

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

Sterle and Della Symonds Olin pose for the photographer at the house of their son, Gerald Olin in Chambers, Chemung County, NY.

Their first daughter, Kathleen, married Carl B. Carpenter who graduated from Woodhull High School and Alfred University with a degree in Agriculture. He was a dealer for International Harvester Corp. and, later, for John Deere Equipment. He belonged to the East Troupsburg Baptist Church and served as Mayor of Woodhull Village. Carl and Kathleen Carpenter lived in the same house that William W. Olin purchased in 1900. Their son, Norman W. Carpenter, first married Patricia Norwood. She had a daughter, Bonnie Norwood, and twin boys, Michael and Mitchell, born 1970 who were adopted by Norman. He graduated from Woodhull High School, and attended Alfred University. After serving three years in the US Army, Norman worked 38 years as a technologist for Corning Inc., Corning, NY. Bonnie Norwood Carpenter married John Traylor and had three children: Wesley, born 1980; Sarah, born 1983; and Cody, born 1985. Michael Carpenter was a Marine and Mitchell was in the Army during the Persian Gulf War (Desert Storm). Norman's second marriage in 1983 was to Jackline Duke Davis who had four Davis children over 15 years old at the time.

David Olin Carpenter married Dorothy Midget, born 1938, and had two children: Carla Ann, born 1965 and David James, born 1967 in Palmerton, Carbon County, PA. David graduated from Alfred

University and continued with higher education. He has held several positions as a chemist, and Dorothy worked as a hospital lab technician. Their daughter, Carla Ann, married Christopher A. Prather, 1991, in the East Troupsburg Baptist Church and they have two children: Ellis May, born 1992, and Alexia Rosalie, born 1994. The David Carpenter family has invested heavily in real estate near East Troupsburg, Steuben County, NY, his home county. The "Carpenter Valley" is becoming a show place of white board fences, Hereford beef cattle, refurbished barns, houses, a church, and well-trimmed orchards.

Sterle and Della Ann Olin's first son, Radcliffe Symonds Olin, born 1909 in Woodhull, married Dorotha W. Simpson in 1934. Radcliffe, known in the family as "Pete" finished school in Woodhull and received a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Tri-State College in Angola, IN. His longest term of employment was at Ingersoll-Rand, manufacturers of pneumatic equipment, where he retired after 30 years. While working as a design and fitting engineer, his skill and interests were channeled into "hands-on" pipe fitting, specializing in the art of joining pipes by soldering. Pete was an avid gun collector. He died, 1976, in Goodletsville, TN.

Radcliffe S. and Dorotha (Simpson) Olin had two children: Sharon Lee, born 1935, who married Bruce David Fessenden, 1955, in Chapel Hill, NC; and Joyce Ann, born on Christmas Day 1938, who married Joseph S. Lewis in 1956. The Fessenden's had four children: Kimberly Ann was born 1956, and first married Murphy Anderson, and second Charles Phelps. They have one son, Brandon Phelps, born 1989 and live in Goodletsville, TN; Christopher D. was born 1958; Craig W. was born 1960; and Mark D. was born 1961. Bruce D. Fessenden has his own business "Employed Benefits" in Nashville, TN.

Joyce Ann Olin, daughter of Radcliffe and Dorotha Olin, and her husband Joseph S. Lewis, had one daughter, Judy, born 1957, who married Robert Lodding.

Sterle and Della Olin's second son, Donald William Olin, married Florence Edwards in 1946 at Endicott, Broome County, NY. They had no children. In 1943, Donald joined the US Marines and served through the end of World War II. He died, 1976, in Rochester, Monroe County, NY at age 64 and was buried in the Vestal Hills Memorial Park, Broome County, NY.

Donald W. Olin, son of Sterle and Della Symonds Olin, served his country as a Marine during World War II guarding Japanese prisoners on Okinawa Island in the Pacific.

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

Sterle and Della Olin's second daughter, Gertrude Olin, received a teacher's training certificate upon graduating from the Woodhull High School. The certificate allowed her to teach in one of the Town of Woodhull's school districts. She taught for three years in the Sly School District #4, Town of Woodhull. Gertrude married Robert J. Elliott in 1933, a farmer from Osceola, Tioga County, PA. He graduated from Alfred College in NY State and worked many years; first as a milk tester and, later, as a barn inspector before acquiring a farm of his own. Gertrude and Robert have two children: James R. Elliott, born 1937; and Roberta K. Elliott born 1943. James married Carol A. McCutcheon in 1957 and they had four children: Victoria Lee, born 1958 in Germany, Barbara Kay, born 1959 in PA and was married to Thomas David Kyle, 1983; Steven J., born 1961, died 1963; and Robert James, born 1971. Roberta Kathleen Elliott married Edward L. Sahrles in 1965 at Osceola, PA and moved to Spencerport, Orleans County, NY where they had three children: Edward L. Jr., born 1965; Susan K., born 1968, who married Stephen D. Carroll, Jr. in 1987; and Brett R., born 1970.

Sterle and Della Olin's son, Gerald Olin, married Dorothy Morgan in 1938. He operated a small farm south of the NY State border, ran a feed mill, and worked some years in Ingersoll-Rand, in Painted Post, Steuben County, NY. Their two children were: Connie, born 1941 who married Clyde Silliman, III in 1960, and Jonathan S., born 1948 who married Mary M. Telech in 1970 at St. Peter and Paul Church, Elmira, NY. Connie and Clyde Silliman, III moved to Australia in the 1970s where they had two boys, Colin and Keith. Before she left for Australia, Connie had a degree in education. She has been teaching

school in Australia for several years. Jonathan and Mary (Telech) Olin had one child, April, born 1971. He is a carpenter working on construction and has started a trailer court near Horseheads, Chemung County, NY.

One of Sterle and Della Ann (Symonds) Olin's twin boys was William, who married Natalie Wanda Grist, daughter of Harrison and Pearl (Burnside) Grist. Their marriage took place in 1942 at the Baptist Parsonage in Painted Post, Steuben County, NY. Both William and Natalie were born in Woodhull and spent most of their years living in Pennsylvania. They had three children: Ashley, born 1943; Amy Jean, born 1950; and Timothy Robert, born 1958.

Ashley Olin married Marlene Wheeler in 1965 and they had two sons: Gregory M., born 1966 and William H., born 1969. Gregory possesses artistic painting abilities like his great-grandfather, Sterle, and his great-aunt, Kathleen.

— Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

The Sterle and Della Symonds Olin's 254-acre farm near Woodhull, NY becomes the natural setting for chickens and children in a 1924 photo. Left to right: Radcliffe Olin, Maribah Symonds, a cousin, Milton Mattison, a cousin in rear, Gerald Olin in front, Kathleen Olin, unidentified cousin holding twin Robert Olin, Donald Olin holding twin William Olin and Gertrude Olin. The seven named Olins are children of Sterle and Della Symonds Olin.

Amy Jean Olin married Edward English in 1973 at the Baptist Church in Cherry Flats, PA. Edward and Amy English had a son, Jason Timothy, born 1977.

In 1924 twins Robert Olin, sitting on the gas tank, and William Olin sitting in the seat, claim ownership of their father, Sterle Olin's, 1920 Fordson tractor.

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

Timothy R. Olin married first Cindy Marie Starkweather and second, Kelly Rose Phin. His second marriage took place in Hatboro, Bucks County, PA and they had two sons: Kurtis, born there in 1987; and Kyle born 1990.

Sterle and Della Ann Olin's other twin boy was Robert, who took over his father's farm, thereby keeping it in the OLIN Family for another generation. Robert finished his schooling at Woodhull in 1938 and immediately set out to capture a wife. He found her while swinging around at one of the local square dances. She is Alberta C. Dennis, born 1918, daughter of Walter and Ruth (Edwards) Dennis. Alberta was working in Woodhull for Harold Mason in his grocery store. Because shortages of males occurred early in Steuben County during World War II, Alberta ran the store in 1941-42 in the absence of Mr. Mason, and she hired local girls as store clerks.

Robert Olin, looking to the future, needed a mate for life who would serve as his wife, mother of his children, substitute as a farm hand, and provide companionship in his retirement years. He hit the "jackpot" when he proposed to Alberta and she accepted. They married in 1942. They had two daughters: C. Elaine, born October, 1942; and Peggy Lou, born 1950.

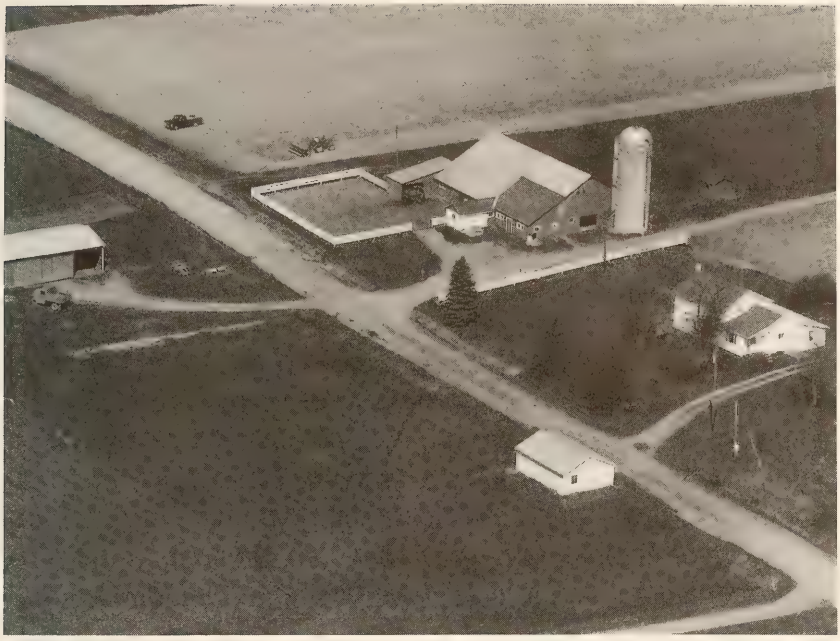
Robert milked 15 cows and had to have his cans of milk ready by 6:30 AM, every morning of the year for pick up and delivery to the Woodhull Cheese Factory. After WWII, the Dairlea Milk Company began paying more for farmer's milk than the cheese factory, but required that farmers have a refrigerated bulk milk tank that would keep

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

Robert and Alberta Dennis Olin celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 1992 at the East Troupsburg Baptist Church. Left to right: their daughter, Peggy Lou Olin Hotaling; Robert's sister Gertrude Olin Elliot; son-in-law, thomas Hotaling; and Alberta and Robert Olin.

milk cool and allow tank trucks to pick milk up every other day. So in 1950, Robert built his special milk house and extended the length of his dairy barn, and increased his milking herd to 25. He and Alberta were in the dairy business well over 30 years and are now semi-retired, and make their home one of the best manicured and pleasing farms (OLIN) in the state.

Their daughter, Elaine, attended a business school in Elmira and held jobs as receptionist, secretary, and admission clerk in Libraries and Hospitals. Elaine married Randall Lyle Gleason in 1962. Randy has worked in the Corning area selling automobiles and insurance. Elaine and Randy Gleason had two children: Kelly Ann, born in Hornell; and Robin M., born 1967, Hornell. Elaine Olin Gleason died 23 May 1988 in Hornell and was buried in the Woodhull Cemetery. She lived a short but full life. Her daughter, Kelly, born 1964, married Jay Arthur and presented her mother with a grandchild, Emily Elaine, born 18 April 1988, three weeks before her mother's death. A son Jared A. Arthur was born 1994. Robin Gleason married Lloyd Young 1990, at West Jasper Wesleyn Church, and she has a daughter, Tricia Marie Young, born 1992, Hornell, NY.



—Photo Courtesy Robert Olin

The Robert and Alberta Dennis Olin Dairy Farm on OLIN Road, Woodhull, Steuben County, NY in the spring of 1993. This 254.9-acre farm has been in the OLIN Family for 108 years. Robert Olin's great-grandfather, William W. Olin, was the first, followed by his father, Sterle Olin. Bob and Alberta no longer have a full-time farming business.

Robert and Alberta Olin's other daughter, Peggy Lou, graduated from Addison High School and Alfred College and earned a degree as a medical technician. She married Thomas Hotaling, 1969, in Woodhull. He served three years in the Navy. Peggy Lou was always able to find work in the medical field and has continued her education, and received her BS Degree from Oswego State College in NY and her Master's Degree from Syracuse University. Her husband, Thomas Hotaling, holds an excellent position with the New York State Power Authority. They have one child, Aaron Michael, born 1981.

Not all of Robert and Alberta's energy has been restricted to the farm. Robert was elected Town of Woodhull Councilman for 20 years, 1958-1978, and has served five years, 1979-1984, as the Town Supervisor. Alberta serves as his bookkeeper, especially at budget time. They do miss their square and round dances. Robert and Alberta Olin are members of the Woodhull Methodist Church and the Woodhull Grange.

Chapter 27

Son, Edwin, and Daughter Pamelia Olin

William and Lucy (Pollard) Olin's sixth child, a daughter, Pamelia was born 1816 in Jericho. Her first marriage was to _____ Marsh of Greene, about 1838, at Greene, Chenango County, NY. No other record of this Marsh has surfaced. However, Pamelia's father purchased 41 acres from Elison D. Marsh in Greene, who may have been the father of her husband. In any event, Mr. Marsh probably died shortly after the birth of his second son. Pamelia and _____ Marsh had two sons: Charles W. Marsh, born ca 1834 in Greene; and Edwin Marsh, born ca 1838 in Greene.

The 1840 Census of Greene, Chenango County, NY has Pamelia Marsh, age 24, and her two sons, Charles W. Marsh, age 6 and Edwin Marsh, age 2, living with her parents, William Olin, age 67 and Lucy Olin, age 60, and Pamelia's unmarried brother, Edwin C. Olin, age 21. Pamelia left her parents' home about 1841, and took her two sons to Hornellsville where her oldest brother, Dr. Samuel Olin, lived. She met Cameron Webb, son of Stephen Webb of Hornellsville and they married ca 1842. Cameron Webb was a farmer and later became a merchant as well as a farmer.

Pamelia's second marriage resulted in seven more children, all born in Hornellsville. They were: Theodora, born ca 1843 who died ten years later; Vernette, born ca 1845; Parmelia, born ca 1847; Lucy, born ca 1849; Stephen, born ca 1852; George, born ca 1855; and Ella, born ca 1857. Pamelia died in Woodhull, 1901.

EDWIN C. OLIN

William and Lucy (Pollard) Olin's seventh and youngest child, Edwin C. Olin, was born 1819 in Jericho, Chenango County, NY. Edwin was destined to remain at his parents' farm on the Genegantslet Flats, south of Greene, until his death in 1898. His parents, his own family and other members of the Olin family are buried in the Lower Genegantslet Cemetery.

Edwin C. Olin, youngest son of William and Lucy Pollard Olin, married and remained on his father's farm in the Genegantslet Valley south of Greene, Chenango County, NY.

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

Edwin C. Olin worked continuously and methodically maintaining, improving and capitalizing the OLIN Farm as a business and farm to be proud of. He married Juliette in late 1844, three years after his sister, Pamelia Olin Marsh, left for Steuben County. His father died in 1844, creating a situation where Edwin and Juliette operated the farm as their own, when, in reality, the farm was still in his mother's name. In 1853, his brothers signed off any interest in the farm, giving title to Edwin in return for his care of their mother, Lucy, until her death, which occurred in 1857. In 1855, Edwin hired and boarded John Sien, a 40-year-old German Laborer, to help with the chores of daily farming.

During the next 30 years, Edwin Olin improved the value of the farm's real property from $1,200 to almost $6,500 and personal property exceeding $2,000. As the years rolled along, the aging Edwin began to relax, pushing himself away from his demanding grind. Reliance on his children, particularly Henry Pembroke, allowed Edwin and Juliette the opportunity to travel around the states for sight-seeing and visits to other members of the OLIN Family.

The Chenango Canal had a landing dock a few hundred feet from the Olin farm house. Traveling on the Canal's packet boat was a luxury compared to a wagon or a horse. The Olins and neighbors made many trips to Utica and down to Binghamton, mostly for pleasure. Farm produce from the neighborhood was sent via the canal to markets until the railroads with their cheaper rates and faster service, forced the canals out of business.

Edwin C. and Juliette Olin's children, all born in Greene, Chenango County, NY. were: Francis D.; Henry Pembroke; Isabell H.; Mary E.; twins Edwin and Juliette; and Clara M.

—Photo Courtesy of Robert Olin

Edwin C. and Juliette Olin's three youngest of seven children, ca 1872. Left to right: Juliette (Etta) and twin Edwin (Eddie) and Clara M. Eddie and Etta died while in their 20s and Clara died at age nine.

Francis D. Olin, born ca 1845, married Roselia Wells, daughter of Orren and Catherine Wells, around 1870. They had one child, Marshall, who died when he was ten months old in March of 1871. Seven years later, April, 1878, Francis D. Olin died. His widow, Roselia married his cousin, William W. Olin from Woodhull, Steuben County, NY. Meanwhile, it took nine years to close out Francis's will. The will was being contested and the Administrators were showing partiality. A new set of administrators were named who agreed on the awards to Francis's widow, Roselia, his father, Edwin C., a brother, Henry Pembroke, and two sisters, Mary E. and Juliette T.

Henry Pembroke Olin, born ca 1847, married Mary V. Stafford, daughter of Jehial and Rosina Stafford. Mary died very young at 22 years old and had no children. Henry Pembroke never remarried. He became the mainstay of the OLIN Farm. By the late 1800s, the OLIN Farm was complex, having some small parcels and two or three farms merged together, still managed by Edwin C. Olin and his son, Henry Pembroke Olin. Henry Pembroke Olin died after 1910. His father died in 1898 and his mother in 1906.

Edwin C. and Juliette Olin's daughter, Isabell H., born ca 1855 and Clara M., born ca 1867, died while young girls at age 4 and 9, respectively. Their daughter, Mary E., born ca 1858, married _____ Hagaman, CA 1883. On the 15th of October, 1865, six months after the Civil War ended, Juliette presented her husband, Edwin with the twins named after their parents: Juliette T. and Edwin T. Ironically, both died in their 20s: Juliette T. at age 20; and Edwin T. at age 25,

This exceptionally large branch of the OLIN Family did not seem to fragment across the nation as did others. They stayed in two basic clusters: the home County of Chenango and the County of Steuben, both in the Southern Tier of New York State.

Reference note from page 235, Chapter 26 . . . Carrie Olin who married George Packard, Minnie Olin who married Dennis McMahon, and Edwin Olin, marriage missing but who had a son, George Olin, a barber in Coudersport, Tioga County, PA.

CHART - 9 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
William OLIN (4)
Lucy Pollard

Children (5)

1 - Samuel OLIN
Pamelia Stephens
(see Chart - 10)

2 - Jeremiah P. OLIN

3 - Harriett OLIN
James V. Humphrey

(6)

William T. HUMPHREY
Mary B. _____
James M. HUMPHREY
Olive E. Church
Charles J. HUMPHREY
Eunice Kirby
Henry D. HUMPHREY
Harriet A. HUMPHREY
_____Heath
George T. HUMPHREY

(7)

George F. HUMPHREY
Wilmont G. HUMPHREY
Sarah G. _____
Harold P. HUMPHREY
Frank L. HUMPHREY
Celia M. HUMPHREY
Minnie A. HUMPHREY
Arthur B. HUMPHREY

4 - William OLIN
Sarah Bonds

5 - Franklin OLIN
Catherine VanOrsdale
(see Chart - 11)

Julia OLIN
William H. OLIN
Emily Payne
Lucy P. OLIN
George E. OLIN
Myra L. Hill

6 - Parmelia OLIN
1 - _____Marsh

Charles W. MARSH
Edwin MARSH

2 - Cameron Webb

Theodora WEBB
Vernette WEBB
Permelia WEBB
Lucy WEBB
Stephen WEBB
George WEBB
Ella WEBB

7 - Edwin C. OLIN
Juliette _____

Francis D. OLIN
Roselia Wells
Henry Pembroke OLIN
Mary Stafford
Isabell H. OLIN
Mary OLIN
Edward OLIN
Juliette OLIN
Clara M. OLIN

Marshall OLIN

CHART - 10

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

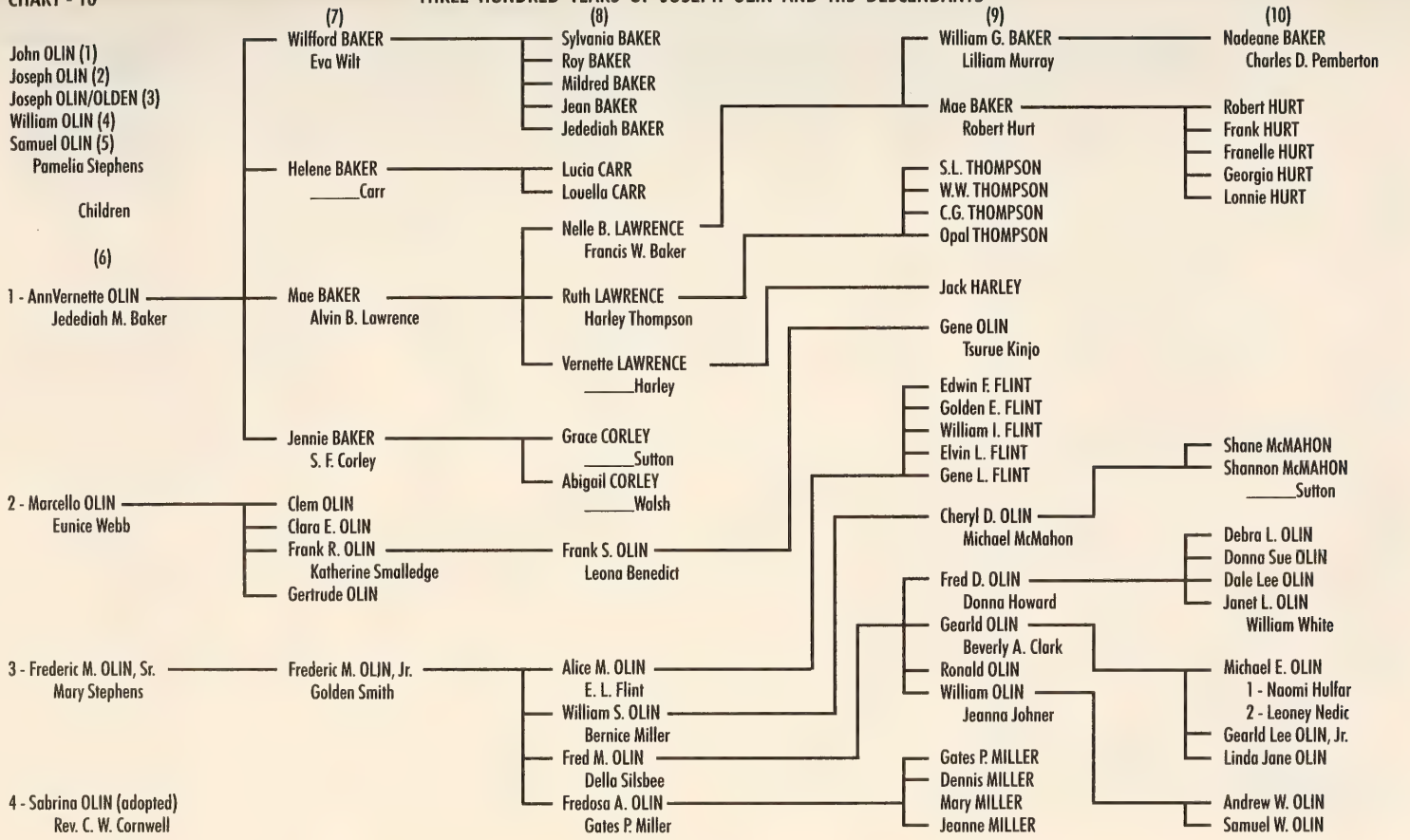
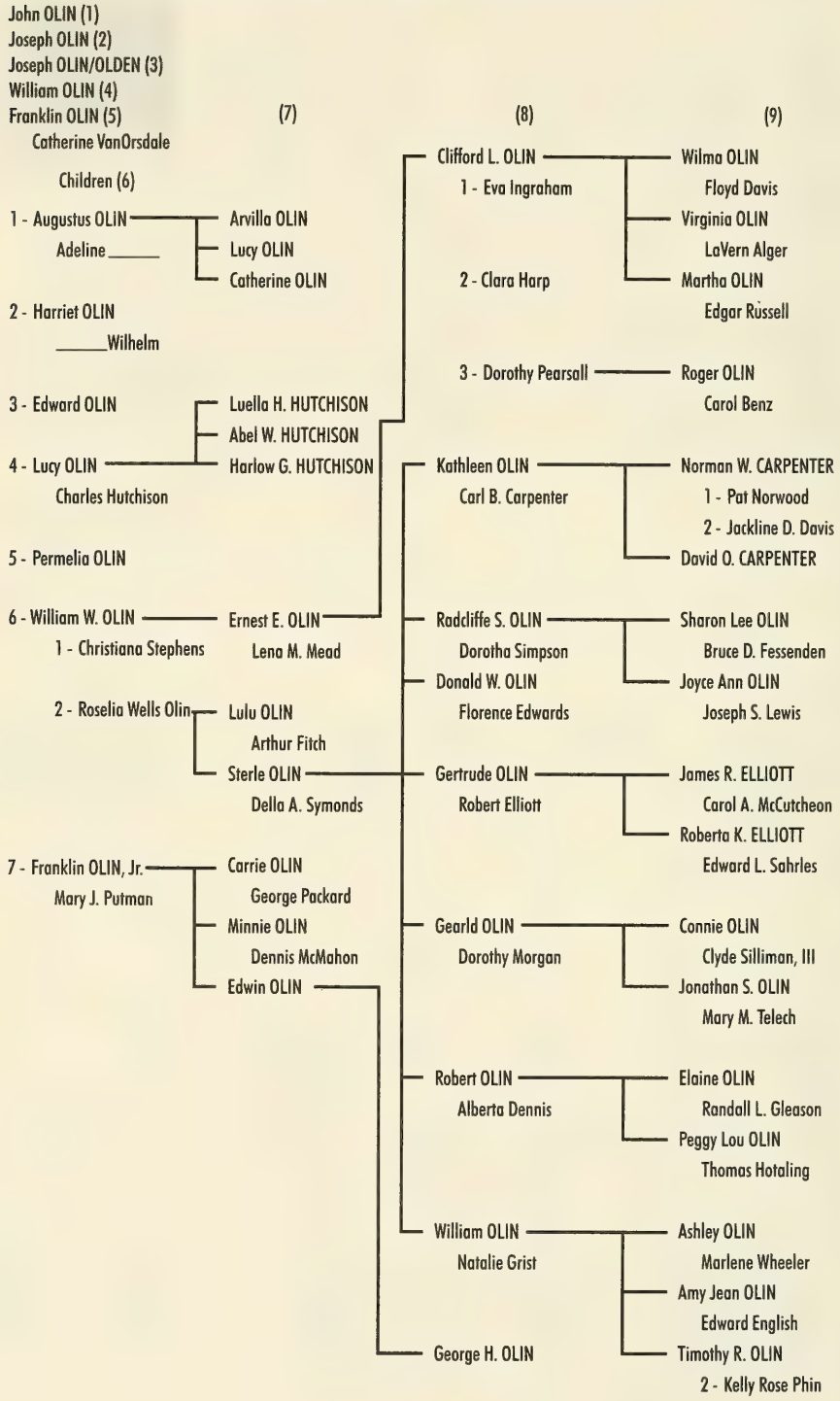


CHART - 11 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS



Part VII — William OLIN Family in Chenango and Steuben Counties, NY

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PART VIII

Reuben OLIN/OLDEN Bids His Children Farewell

"Life can only be understood backward' but it must be lived forward!"

—Soeren Kierkegaard

Chapter 28

Son, John Olin Migrates through New York to Pennsylvania

Reuben and Hannah (Nichols) Olin/Olden's first child was John Olin, born 21 October 1802 on the OLIN Farm in the Town of Guilford, Windham County, VT. Their other eight children: Rachel, Nancy, Charles, Ruth, George, Sally, Calvin, and Lucinda were born on the same OLIN Homestead. John was the first to receive what little education was provided in the early days of Vermont's one-room schools. He lived at home, helping his father and grandfather with farm chores and the maple sugar enterprise until he was 24 years old when he married Ruth Culver, a neighbor girl. Ruth was born 18 January 1804, the daughter of Joshua and Irene Culver. John and Ruth were married on the 18th of January 1826. The newlywed couple left for the Adirondack Mountains of New York State where the logging barons were stripping the forests of prized pines and firs. John found a laborer's job easily enough, but was concerned about the deplorable living conditions to which he had subjected his "Ruthie." He took her back home, and promised to find a good place to live so he could bring her back to him.

That winter, he returned to Guilford and made plans to go back to the woods in Warren County, NY with a team of oxen and a two-wheel cart with some household items and minor farming tools. They officially set up a home in 1827 in a rented cabin on 25 acres in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County, NY close to the headwaters of the Hudson River which originate in the nearby mountains. John did not mind the hard work or the questionable wages. He did, however, miss

his "Ruthie" when he was off in the timber country, sometimes weeks at a time. He quit the timber job to buy a place of his own where they could make their living.

So, on the 27th day of March 1830, John and Ruth Olin paid $110.60 to John Ireland of New York City for 65 Acres of land in North Creek, Town of Johnsburg. Actually, what they paid for was thousands of large immovable boulders left by glaciers and erosion. John intended to farm a portion of the creek bottom land. Instead, the situation was demoralizing. There were thousands more boulders hidden under a thin layer of soil. If it were not for his few sheep and the abundance of trout in that creek, the Olins might not have survived because the land itself failed to support them. However, they did survive.

A daughter, Jane, was born 26 March 1830, one day before John signed for his so-called farm. A son, Hyde, was born three years later on 4 August. 1833. John's 65 acres were valued at $65 with a tax of 60 cents a year. The nearest Post Office was in the Village of Johnsburg, roughly 12 miles to the south. At times somebody would make sporadic efforts to run a store in Johnsburg. It was never a good store, but had just enough rum, salt, tobacco, and some cotton and woolen goods to satisfy a few needs of cash customers.

John and Ruth were ready to give it up and return to Guilford when they received a letter from George, one of John's younger brothers, who had recently obtained a good working farm on Turner Hill in the Charlotte River Valley in the Town of Davenport, Delaware County, NY. George suggested that John bring his family to Delaware County where many farms had been vacated by families moving on to the Ohio Valley and Michigan.

The John OLIN Family left Warren County in the fall of 1834 and moved to a small farm in Franklin, Delaware County. John was unable to sell his place in North Creek, had no money whatsoever, and, consequently, was forced to work a small farm on shares. John and Ruth felt that this would be a temporary situation. At least their children could attend school, and they rejoiced over friendly neighbors and the opportunity to attend church. Another son, Earl, was born 11 June 1838 in the Town of Franklin, Delaware County, NY.

John's brothers, George and Calvin, and his sister, Lucinda, were urging him to migrate west to the Wisconsin and Iowa Territories with them. John was interested, but Ruth was not. She preferred moving to Susquehanna County, PA, where many of her relatives and neighbors from Guilford, VT had relocated. She was referring to the Culver, Crosier, Nichols, and Carpenter families.

John yielded to Ruth's wishes. They still had not sold their North Creek property, and he gave it up as a loss. But, being a frugal person, he had accumulated a few dollars during their five years in Delaware County. John made arrangements with his first cousin by marriage, Philip Crosier, to stay at his home in Thompson, Susquehanna County, PA until they could find a place they could buy.

His brother, George, who married Mary Turner, had begun a healthy family and had left for the west in 1845. His brother, Calvin, had purchased a farm near George in 1841 and married Ann Cook in Oneonta in 1845. Their sister, Lucinda, moved with George and Mary when they went west.

Wisconsin Song

Since the times are so hard I will tell you, Sweetheart,
I have a mind to leave off my plough and cart
And away to Wisconsin a journey to go,
To double my fortune as other folks do.
While here we must labor each day in the field
And the winds consume all the summers can yield!

OK, husband, I have noticed with a sorrowful heart
You have sadly neglected your plow and your cart.
You sheep are disordered at random they run
And you new Sunday jacket goes every day on.
So stay on your farm, you will suffer no loss,
For the stone that keeps rolling can gather no moss!

OK, wife, let us go and don't wait
For I long to be there. I long to be great,
That you be some great lady who knows but what I,
A sick gardener shall be abed before I shall die
OK, husband, that land is to clear
Which will cost you the labor of many a year.
Your horses, sheep, cattle will all be to buy
And you never will get settled before you will die !

OK, wife, then let us go and don't stand
For I will purchase a farm all cleared by hand.
Where horse, sheep, and cattle are not very dear
And we will feast on a fat buffalo half of a year!

OK, husband, remember that land of delight
Is surrounded by Indians that plunder by night.
Your house may be pillaged and burnt to the ground
And you wife and your children die mangled around!

OK, wife, you have convinced me, I will urge you no more
For I never once thought of your dying before.
I love my dear children, although they are small
And you, my dear wife, I love better than all!
So, we will stay on our farm and we will suffer no loss
For the stone that keeps rolling can gather no moss!

Mrs. Emogene Higgins, Cortland, NY wrote this ca 1859. I have heard it mentioned in earlier accounts. This is my version of her difficult-to-read script. The subject surely related to the times even though it may not be applicable to any set tune. It is conceivable that John and Ruth Olin shared the same views, given the actions they took.

When the spring thaw of 1840 ended, and the roads began to dry out, John Olin loaded his family, his wife Ruth, their three children: Jane, Hyde, and Earl; and their meager belongings into his large wagon and headed south on the west Susquehanna Road to Pennsylvania. By mid-morning, they reached the Village of Sidney where a large crowd had gathered on both sides of the Susquehanna River to watch something taking place in the water. John tied his team to a tree, took Ruth's arm, and, with the children following, joined the crowd. A sizable boat was moving slowly up-stream under its own power. The boat was not being moved by oars or push-poles, and there was smoke billowing from a stack. An occasional, sharp-pitched whistle sounded. John learned that it was a steam-powered boat fired by wood making its first run ever on the Susquehanna River from Bainbridge to Oneonta. John shook his head in disbelief, wondering what men would dream of next.

The OLIN Family continued their journey, and passed through Bainbridge and Afton where two of his uncles had lived. He wished he could take time to travel the 25 miles west to his Uncle's place below Greene for a visit. Dusk was falling rapidly when the OLIN Family reached Nineveh where they found accommodations at the Pease House.

Early the next morning, the Olins continued traveling south when they were stopped two miles from Ouaquaga, the home of the wife of the legendary Joseph Brant, a Mohawk Indian Chief, who commanded the Iroquois forces for the British during the American Revolutionary War. The fellow who stopped them pleaded with John to use this team of horses to pull an ark off an island in the river. Never one to refuse aid to someone in trouble, John drove across a large, cleared field to the river's edge where he saw a double "ark" beached in the brush growing on the upper point of the island. The two arks were tied together in tandem, each 30 feet long and ten feet wide, forming a raft of top grade, fir logs with a small cabin erected in the middle. The logs were to be sold somewhere near Harrisburg, PA. The cabins held barrels of apples and potatoes held over the winter for the spring markets on the lower Susquehanna River basin. Several "Firkins" of heavily salted butter, trip provisions, and quarters for the three men filled the remaining space in the cabins.

The boatmen's 200-foot length of rope was too short to reach from the ark to the shore, so John dug into his wagon to add a 50 foot length. The combination of the team pulling and the rafting men pushing with their poles freed the raft from the brush. The raftsmen untied the tope on their end and waved goodbye. John pulled the rope to shore and added 200 feet more of rope to his load.

The Olins traveled through Windsor into Pennsylvania to Oakland where they crossed the river into the Village of Susquehanna and then up the hills into Thompson, the home of Philip Crosier. Family and neighbors were gathered to welcome the family's arrival. John and Ruth reveled in the attention to them and their children. Because 40 families from lower Vermont moved into Susquehanna County around 1830, it was known locally as "The Vermont Settlement." The area appealed to Vermonters as it resembled the hills they left behind with one noticeable difference: the soil was looser and thicker making it more productive. Among the early families in Susquehanna County, PA were the Culvers, Nichols, and Crosiers, all related to the Olins.

John was anxious to find a place of his own, and dozens of well wishers escorted him around the county, pointing out advantages and disadvantages. He finally purchased 160 acres on Slocum Hill, later referred to as Snake or Olin Hill. His new land was not a farm. It was all trees, brush and stones, but there was a one-room log cabin located

in the Town of Jackson. The log cabin was in sad disrepair, much to Ruth's dismay although she realized that it was all they could afford. She had faith in her husband. John realized that hard work was just beginning. He needed to provide better shelter for his family and clear several acres for crops for a dairy operation. He did not want anymore to do with sheep after his North Creek experience.

John and Ruth joined the Baptist church at Jackson Corners and enrolled Jane and Hyde in School District #9, about a quarter-mile farther up the hill. The Jackson school system in 1820 was the envy of other towns. And, in the absence of a permanent doctor, Mrs. Mercy Tyler of Ararat served as mid-wife and healer of minor injuries.

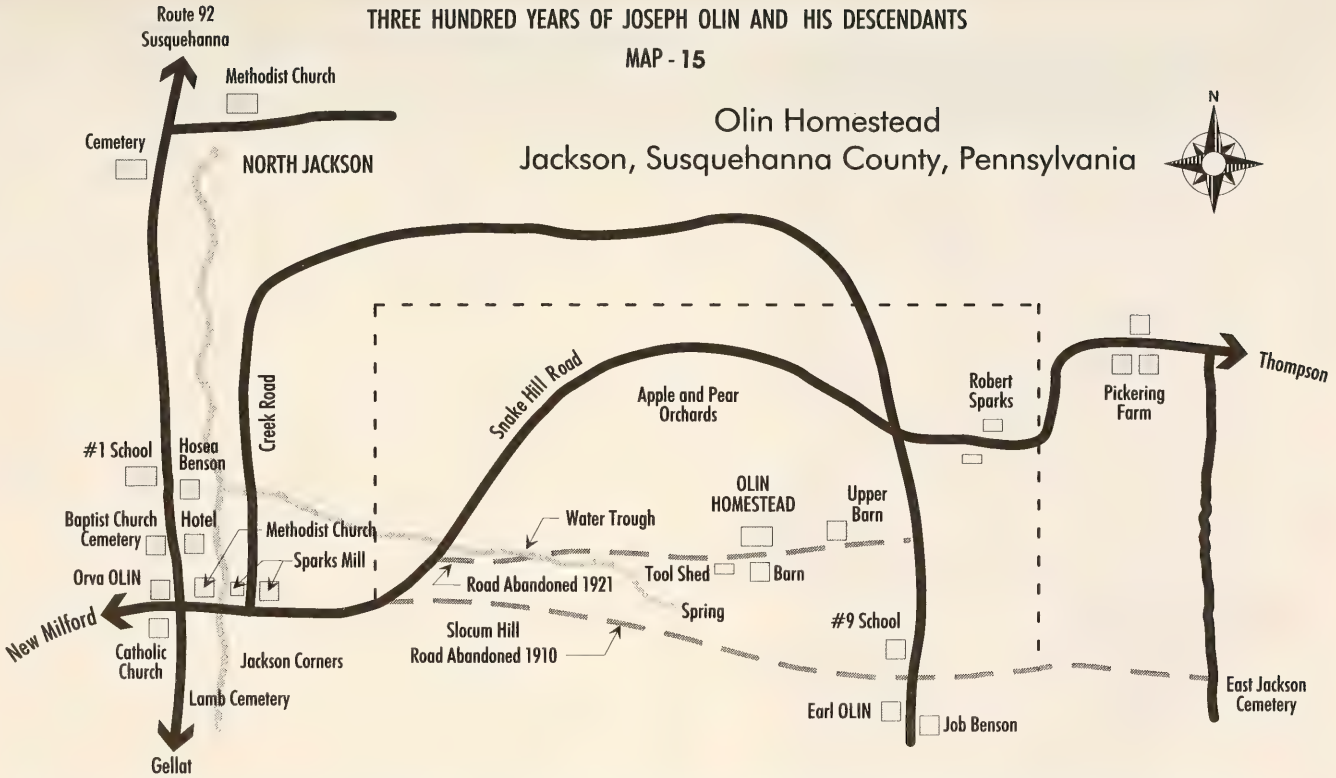
In 1841, neighbors pitched in to help John build a four-room, story-and-a-half frame house. While doing so, they discovered John's skill in framing buildings. Consequently, he was always able to find work for cash when he needed it or to take a break from the never-ending job of clearing his land.

Four feet of snow accumulated during the winter of 1842/1843. Cattle and sheep starved to death in northeastern Pennsylvania for lack of fodder and grain. Families were destitute, just short of starvation. The Olins survived better than most. They had no sheep, only two cows, a steer, two horses, and a few chickens. Hyde was hungry and happy; school was closed for the winter. Jane was hungry and unhappy; she missed her friends in school.

Another daughter, Irene, was born 8 July 1843, in Jackson delivered by Mercy Tyler.

Water was a problem at the house. The source was a spring hundreds of feet from and below the house. Neighbors convinced John that he could pipe water from the spring to his house with a force ram to push the water up into a tank on his upper floor. He walled up a pit at the spring and covered it with a "spring house." He bore out many lengths of elm for water pipe during the winter months. During the summer, he dug the long ditch and laid in his wooden water pipes. When finished in the fall, he was able to force spring water up to a storage tank above his kitchen which allowed water to flow into the sink when needed. Overflow from the spring was channeled to the road where many a rider and horse quenched their thirst while traveling the hills. Later the wooden pipes were replaced by galvanized iron pipes.

MAP - 15



This sketchy map indicates the approximate locations of old and present roads, streams, churches, cemeteries, schools, hotel, neighbors, and descendants. The John Olin farm as outlined, remained in the Olin family over 100 years. It descended from John Olin to son, Omar Olin, to his daughter, Minnie Olin who in turn sold it to her cousin, Frank Lowe, grandson of John Olin.

John and Ruth Olin's last child, a son, Omer or Omar, was born 8 November 1845 in Jackson. This gave the OLIN Family five children.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

The hotel in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA that John Olin and his cousin, Roswell Culver built ca 1852 was seriously damaged by fire ca 1910.

By 1850, John had a profitable dairy farm. Hyde, now 17 years old, was breaking in two steers for an ox team. He seemed to have a good rapport with animals and offered his expertise to others. John was milking nine cows, and the women churned butter and made cheese which brought in cash. He was on his second team of horses, had a couple of hogs, about 100 chickens, but no sheep. His apple and pear orchard were beginning to produce. Ruth and Jane were experts with the garden and berry plants. Overall, life was good. Provisions for winter were adequate and stored in the cellar and barn. He and his sons had build miles of stone-wall fences in and around the farm. Because his sons could assume more responsibility for the farm, John teamed up with a cousin, Roswell Culver, Justice of Peace, for the Town of Jackson, as contractors to build houses, barns, stores, and other needed buildings in the Jackson area. Both men were kept busy for many years, earning reliable reputations and money in the bank.

Finally, in 1852, John sold his 65 acres in North Creek, Warren County, NY to James Ordway for $175.00 plus unpaid back taxes. The sale came as an unexpected surprise, and was considerably more than he had ever hoped. John purchased three young horses: a stallion and

two mares that provided him and his son, Omer, the nucleus for horse breeding stock. He joined the newly formed Jackson Agricultural Society in 1856 which was organized to promote new and successful farming techniques. He and Ruth entered several exhibits for show and awards at the Hartford Summer Fair.

The Olins were users of the *Farmer's Almanac.* It told John the proper planting dates, the amount of seed required and the expected yield. It told Ruth about canning, new recipes, and home health cures. One such cure was a treatment for a sore throat. Cut a small piece of rind from uncooked bacon, tie it on a string, and have the patient swallow the greasy rind. Pull it back up, and repeat the procedure a few times until the soreness disappeared.

All farmers kept a watch dog or two to alert the family to approaching strangers. The Olins had a couple that were considered too friendly for the job. When John took six guinea hens on trade for five bushels of ear corn, he soon proclaimed them far superior to his lazy dogs. The guinea hens' shrill "buckwheat" cry would awaken the household and scare the wits out of salesmen.

About this time, John became concerned about his dozen or so horses. There were rumors that a group of horse thieves controlled by the infamous Loomis Gang of Central New York was beginning to operate in northern Pennsylvania. John kept a loaded shotgun handy in the house and out at the barn.

John Olin developed a positive outlook on life and learned to overlook small annoyances. He expressed his personal belief thusly:

> "If you do not believe in drunkenness, seeking out prostitutes, or gambling, and when sports or exercises seem to be a futile attempt that shows no productive results, what do you do? You immerse yourself in a favorite work to escape the drudgery of your wife's trivial conversation. This way a man remains home when old and enjoys himself by keeping busy productively with some companionship shared with a good wife."

John and Ruth's oldest son, Hyde Olin, married Mariah Nicholas in the spring of 1859. They spent their first night of marital bliss in Hyde's bed in his father's house on Slocum Hill. An interesting story about the events surrounding that wedding night was written in 1881 by Frank B. Lamb, a neighbor on Slocum Hill. He wrote, "...The marriage of Hyde Olin, began what the 'gray-haired boys' now refer to as the "OLIN WAR." The neighbors assembled on that occasion in the woods opposite the old gentleman's residence to 'serenade' the couple. The father was so enraged that he fired off his shotgun into their midst and at least one was peppered. They fled precipitately, dropping their tin

pans, etc. They harassed the old man in all ways that their fertile brains could find, stole his stone boat and finally carried away the ram which forced water from a spring up to his house. He could not find it anywhere, until one day an anonymous letter informed him that he would find his 'Southdown Buck' (meaning ram) up at No. 2 schoolhouse." No. 2 School House was a few miles away in the Jackson Center District.

In 1861, Hyde's brother, Earl, married Abigail Tingley Carpenter, daughter of Obaidiah Lee Carpenter and Eliza Tingley. There was no "serenade" or "horning" by neighbors for this Olin couple. The Tingleys and Carpenters were also from Vermont. Abigail Carpenter was a descendant of William Carpenter who arrived in America from England in the 17th century. Our John Olin(1) daughter, Eleanor, married Benjamin Carpenter, who also was a descendant of the same William Carpenter. A note of interest: the descendants of Earl and Abigail (Carpenter) Olin should be qualified for DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) through the Carpenter family.

The War Between the States upset the normal routine of family life throughout the nation. Scores of young men from Susquehanna county, PA participated; many gave their lives in the preservation of the United States. Hyde Olin, who was married with a two-year-old daughter and another child on the way, volunteered and accepted payment to serve for his brother-in-law, Charles Nicholas. While engaging in the siege of Richmond, Hyde contracted pneumonia and died in a hospital at Bermuda One Hundred, VA on 31 October 1864.

Susquehanna County, PA was proud that each of the Towns organized a Soldiers Aid Society in support of their servicemen away from home. Ruth Olin, her unmarried daughter, Jane, her daughter Irene, who married Asahel A. Lowe in January 1863, and her daughters-in-law, Mariah and Abigail, contributed many hours to the Society. They sewed bedding and clothing items and packed barrels of fruit, vegetables, and wine. In 1863 and 64, the Society held ice cream and strawberry festivals at the Jackson Hotel. The festivals netted $85.00 and $105.00, respectively, as part of funds raised for the northern cause.

John and Ruth's oldest daughter, Jane, died in 1868 at age 38. She had never married and was almost a sister to her mother. She was a dedicated Baptist, and conducted Sunday School classes with often as many as 100 students in the Jackson Baptist Church.

John and Ruth's son, Earl, died in 1875, when he was just 37 years old. He left his wife, Abigail, and two children, Orva Lee and Edna J. Olin.

The John and Ruth Olin family attended this Baptist church in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA during the 19th and 20th centuries. The above photo was taken ca 1890. The cemetery is behind the church and has many Olins in it.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

The following year, John and Ruth put aside their mourning to celebrate their country's Centennial. They made the trip to Montrose, the Susquehanna County seat, where thousands gathered to honor the United States' 100th birthday. A mile long parade of marchers, bands, horses, floats, clowns, and children proved to be the main attraction. Red, white, and blue flags, banners and bunting were hung from every building. Dozens of food and memento booths with vendors hawking their goods lined the walks. The smell of roasting ox, pig, chicken, and ham dinners wafted through the streets. The Olins acknowledged the greetings of their friends as they strolled side by side.

On the way home, John and Ruth reminisced about the bad and good times they had shared since their marriage. They had seen the start and now almost finish of the canal system in New York and Pennsylvania that was slowly being replaced by the faster and cheaper railroads. The Erie Railroad ran through Susquehanna County at Susquehanna Depot (known as the City of Stairs), which opened in 1850, and the Jefferson branch of the Erie ran from Lanesboro south through Ararat. This branch began operating in 1873. Farmers were experiencing prosperity, and this was expected to continue.

The Editor of the *Susquehanna Journal*, after making a trip through Jackson in 1870, said, "They are mainly devoted to dairying. We judge that Jackson sold fully $100,000. worth of butter last year. The farmers are thrifty and rapidly accumulating wealth. We saw many fine herds of cattle and not one unstabled or poorly cared for. Jackson also abounds in productive orchards and gardens."

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

Jackson's lower Main Street ca 1890. Note the road condition, the Baptist Church and the hotel sign in the distance.

The Vermont immigrants: Culvers, Carpenters, Nichols, Crosiers, and others, including the Olins, proved their efforts were worthy of praise looked for even better days in the future. The old saying: "Nothing ventured, nothing gained" applies to the early families who gambled for success in the Towns of Susquehanna County, PA and whose contribution to the growth of the United States is equal to any.

Ruth Culver Olin died on the 19th of August at age 72. John had lost a daughter, two sons, and now his "Ruthie" whom he missed most of all. He died six years later, Jan 18, 1882, and was buried in the same cemetery behind the Jackson Baptist Church as were his wife and children. He left a well-kept homestead, a dairy, horse-breeding stock and a productive orchard destined to be improved by his son, Omer.

Chapter 29

Son, Charles Olin, Back-Tracts to Maine and New Hampshire

Charles Olin was born 11 June 1809 in Guilford, Windham County, VT, the fourth child and second son of Reuben and Hannah (Nichols) Olin. Of all of Reuben's children, Charles possessed the broadest understanding and knowledge of the world about him. He was a true scholar, the best and most promising student in his school. He formed an early habit of reading and questioning any published material available and was noted for his excellent penmanship. It was unfortunate that he was not able to continue with higher education. As it was, he made an impression upon the communities of Vermont, Maine, and New Hampshire by establishing a lasting legacy of clean living for his descendants.

Charles developed a religious fervor early in life and announced his intentions of becoming a minister of the Gospel. He left home when he became 18 years old to travel around the New England country visiting churches of different denominations, observing and categorizing the best and most effective techniques used by clergymen in their sermon delivery and control of the congregation. Although his parents had raised him as a Baptist, Charles elected to follow the beliefs of the Methodists.

He also took a page from his father's book of life, using "humor" to spice dry sermons with occasional cause for laughter. He was wary of his peers who had no sense of mirth, and regarded them as inhuman. Charles recommended that parishioners find at least one occasion every day for family laughter and to share it again with God during evening prayers. "Above all," he insisted, "don't take your troubles to bed with you. Hang them on your chair with your trousers or drop them in a glass of water with your teeth." One member responded, "I hardly think that possible with my wife."

Daniel Webster, a native of New Hampshire and graduate of Dartmouth College, was noted for his oratory skills and his participation in federal government from 1823 to 1853. Webster was known as a

champion of the underdog and a hero to those in New Hampshire. Charles Olin preached in New Hampshire during the Webster years and often quoted Webster in his sermons. Charles's favorite quotation was about body cleanliness:

> "Daniel Webster when a lad---was one day called upon by a teacher for punishment---. His hands happened to be very dirty. Knowing this, he spit upon the palm of his right hand, wiping it off on the side of his pantaloons. 'Give me your hand,' said the teacher, very sternly. Out went the right hand partially cleansed. The teacher looked at it a moment, and said, 'Daniel, if you will find another hand in this room as filthy as that, I will let you off this time!' Instantly, from behind his back came the left hand. 'Here it is!' was the ready reply."

Fastidious Charles claimed that the Lord respected and expected cleanliness of the body as well as cleanliness of the soul.

During the course of Charles' travels he met Mary F. Mann, daughter of Obadiah Mann, Jr. and Polly Bray. Mary F., known as "Betsy" within the OLIN family, was born 30 December 1811 in Raymond, Cumberland County, ME. She was the seventh generation of the Mann family in America. Charles Olin and Betsy Mann became husband and wife around 1836, the same year that Thomas Davenport, a blacksmith in Brandon, VT, built the world's first electric car (unsuccessfully). Other electric cars were built later for the railroads, but their high costs prohibited their use over coal and steam-powered cars.

The Charles and Betsy Olin marriage resulted in seven children. Two died as infants and two died as teenagers. The suffering surrounding these deaths most certainly taxed Charles's faith in the "Almighty." Of the seven children: Raymond, Hester A., Charles W., John F., Thomas C., Ceylon, and an unnamed, only three lived to have descendants. As yet, no information has surfaced on the daughter, Hester A. Olin. Charles W. Olin was never married. He left John F. to carry on the family name. Raymond and Hester A. were born in Raymond, ME; the others in Moultonboro, NH. In the decade before the Civil War, Franklin Pierce of NH became the 14th President of the United States in 1853. Betsy's mother, Polly Bray, had died and her father was in his late 80s. By 1860-61, Obadiah Mann, Jr. was 92

years old, lonely and desperate for family help. He appealed directly to his granddaughter, Hester and indirectly to his son-in-law, Charles, for their help. The following letter was written by him ca 1861 from Skowaghan, ME to Hester in Moultonboro, NH.

Hester My Good Grand-daughter; -

I take time to write a few lines to you, and want you to answer my questions. How do you all do; is your mother as well as usuall, how is your health, are your well, is all the folks pertaining to your family, Has your father gone to war and how are you get along with your work are you still willing to have me come and live with your folks?

I am not satisfied with living here, if I should take up your father's offer to take me I might come and live with him as long as I wished to.

Have you had a letter from William Heath? He told me he had wrote you. Have you heard from Caroline Leighton? I want to be at your father's house before long in two or three weeks or as soon as I can.

Has your cousin wrote you from Lewiston, the winter school commenced about the middle of November and will keep about all the winter, it will be a long school.

Yours Respectfully

Obadiah Mann (jr)

I am so troubled to see, I dont know that you can read this. [sic]

Like his Olin ancestors, Charles opposed violence. He was not in favor of a war between the North and South, yet he was strongly in favor of freedom for southern negroes. The firing by southerners on the Union soldiers stationed at Fort Sumter, SC forced the decision for war between the states. Charles was forced to make a decision: he was 52 years old, probably too old to serve in the Army and his son, Charles W. had just celebrated his 20th birthday, making him the right age for service duty. After weighing all the pros and cons, 52-year-old Charles Olin shocked his wife, Betsy, and their children by announcing his intention to enlist as a Private in the Union Army. His reasoning was to protect Charles W. from conscription by the Union. Charles W. would be considered vital to the welfare and support of his mother and siblings. Charles may have thought that he would be a regimental chaplain, rather than in a fighting position, but that was not to be so.

Charles traveled several miles to a different county to the large City of Manchester, NH, where a new regiment was being formed. He

enlisted on the 14th day of September 1861; four months after the Civil War started. He joined Joseph Freshell's Company I of the Seventh Regiment, Infantry, New Hampshire Volunteers to serve three years. Charles stated his height as 5 feet three inches, light complexion, blue eyes, and gray hair. He knew he was over-age and quickly gave his age as 44, not 52, and listed his occupation as a farmer rather than as a preacher to avoid any challenges.

After receiving his ten-dollar bounty money for enlisting, Charles joined his newly formed regiment of three officers and 98 enlisted men at Camp Hale near Manchester. Colonel Putman assumed command six weeks later and immediately put a stop to the disorderly behavior of the troops who were doing as they pleased in town and in camp. The townspeople referred to the Seventh Regiment as a bunch of drunks, but Colonel Putman was determined to change the reputation. Never-the-less, ingenuity prevailed among the "die-hards" who were desperate for their liquor. Some went into town wearing their cartridge boxes and had local tin smiths fashion a tin box with a stopper that fit snugly in the cartridge box. This could be filled with whiskey and carried into camp without detection to drink at will.

Another scheme used to bring whiskey into camp continued for three weeks before being discovered. Beans were the main staple daily and had to be boiled and baked in a large oven in Manchester. Four men were detailed to carry the cooked beans from town to the camp. These men were supplied with money from their buddies to buy bottles of whiskey which they sank into the bottom of the bean kettles.

Food in Camp Hale was quite good. To supplement government rations, friends and relatives would send in pies, cakes, chickens, corned beef, and other goods. Marching drills and marksmanship training for the raw soldiers went into the winter months. Arms were issued. Charles was impressed with his new English Enfield Calibre 57 rifled musket with its brass mountings and bayonet. All steel parts were blue bronzed.

The biggest hazard during cold winter months was fire. Small stoves were issued to each tent. The dirt floor of the tents were covered with several inches of straw. The crowded men slept on the straw around the red hot stove. Occasionally, during the night, someone wold accidently kick out and knock over the stove and set the straw and tent afire.

The Seventh New Hampshire Regiment received orders to depart Camp Hale on the 14th of January 1862. They were to proceed by train to Allyn's Point, CT, board a boat for Jersey City and again travel by rail to Washington, DC. The regiment received new orders in Jersey City that sent them across the Hudson river to New York City where they were barracked in a six-story building with only a few windows. While awaiting further orders, Colonel Putman continued with daily drill exercises. Confinement in such a building was intolerable to country reared New Hampshire men. Again ingenuity prevailed when they dropped ropes from upper windows to an alley below where vendors would attach baskets of desired goods to be pulled up through the windows. The baskets held fruit, baked goods, clothing, and the highly prized bottles of whiskey. Charles was one of the few trusted men stationed to guard the windows to prevent such activities.

The Government rations were insufficient and poor in New York city. When the regiment experienced their first payday on January 31, Colonel Putman was generous with outside passes. Most men readily spent their money on food and drink. All received free admission tickets to attend the world renowned, "Barnum's Museum."

On 13th February 1862, the Seventh Regiment boarded a full-rigged sailing ship, "S. R. MALLORY" bound for Fort Jefferson, Florida. The "land lubber" New Hampshire men suffered days of high seas and squalls "making it a difficult operation of trying to pull their boots up through their stomachs." The farther south they traveled, the more burdensome their winter clothing became. The sudden rise in temperature caused rashes, strokes, and burns. After rounding Key West on the 9th of March, the "S. R. MALLORY" ran aground in sight of their destination, Fort Jefferson. The troops were taken ashore by small fishing smacks. An epidemic of small pox confronted the new arrivals and raged throughout the Key West chain of islands. Most of the New Hampshire men had been vaccinated and escaped the impending death sentence.

Charles enjoyed his first few months at Fort Jefferson. Other Union troops were stationed along the southern coast from Louisiana to Florida and up the east coast to Beaufort, SC. No action was taken against the enemy at Fort Jefferson while the Seventh Regiment was present. Charles was sent on several foraging details, such as gathering gull eggs, sometimes as much as a barrel full on one trip. They also

gathered turtle eggs, but preferred the meat of turtle over the eggs, which seemed too oily. A favorite past time for Charles was to search for perfect sea shells, especially large conch shells. However, Charles had developed a breathing problem and was hospitalized when his regiment was ordered to Beaufort, SC. After three months in the hospital at Fort Jefferson, Charles was placed aboard a ship headed for New York City. He reported in at Davids Island's General Hospital where he was examined and given a disability discharge due to asthma. He was issued a free pass good for 188 miles on the D. & D. Railroad to his home in Moultenboro, NH.

Three years after he returned home, his son, Thomas C., died at age 16 and his daughter, Ceylon, died at age 14, within two weeks of each other. The deaths of these two teenagers may have occurred from a fatal, contagious disease. Both are buried in the Lee Cemetery, Moultonboro, NH.

Charles was fortunate to escape violent war duties; but he paid the price by suffering from asthma until his death at age 75 in 1884. His wife, Betsy, lived to be 96 years old, and died in 1907. Both are buried in Moultonboro, NH. Charles died happy in the knowledge that his son, John F. Olin, had finally accepted the call of the Lord and had joined the Methodist Conference as a supply minister for their North-east District.

CHARLES W. OLIN, SON OF REV. CHARLES and BETSY OLIN

"Rev. Charles and Betsy (Mann) Olin's oldest surviving son, Charles W. was born 29 May 1841 in Wakefield, Carroll County, NH. He was a carpenter by profession and shied away from any marriage. As a boy he was very active with carpenter tools and built a small barn when he was nine years old. When he was a young man, he was employed in a coffee and spice factory in Boston.

"In the fall of 1861, his father enlisted in the Seventh Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers while Charles W. took care of his mother, two sisters and two brothers. He spent his life for others as long as they lived, and when his father died in 1884, his mother went to live with her other surviving son, John F. She died in 1907 at age 96.

"A few years after her death, Charles W. came to Lyman to live with his brother, John F., where he has resided ever since. His is now in fair health, looks after himself, works up his own woodpile, and sells

a few light cords.

"Charles W. is well informed, has always been interested in peace and prosperity of honest men."

The above was written by the then 90-year-old John F. Olin in 1936 about his then 95 year old brother, Charles W. Olin who died one year later.

While Charles W. lived in Moultonboro, he was a laborer, and worked for others at very little pay, helping wherever he was needed. He served as the Town of Moultonboro road agent, comprising a territory of 32 miles of highway during the last years of the 19th century.

JOHN F. OLIN, SON OF CHARLES and BETSY OLIN

John F. Olin, born 5 June 1846, in Moultonboro, Carroll County, NH, the son of Charles and (Betsy) Mary F. (Mann) Olin said, "My education began at the early age of three when, as a little 'frizzle-headed stub short' dressed in a brand new pair of velvet trousers, marched off to school, 'proud as an English Duke.' I stopped to play with the 'polly-woges' in the brook beside the road."

John F. learned the normal small-farm chores such as hoeing beans and corn, milking their few cows, cleaning the barns, and harnessing the horses. He grew up in the shadow of his older brother, Charles W. Olin. Five years younger, he failed to assume any leadership until his marriage in 1872 to Orpha Alexander. When his father enlisted in the Union Army in 1861, his father made it clear to the family that his oldest son, Charles W., would be responsible and held accountable for family and farm decisions while he was gone.

Shortly after his father returned home, John F. at 19 years old decided to strike out on his own. Again, in the words of John F., "Then one day I harkened to the advice of that great, good New Hampshire man (Horace Greeley) who shouted 'Go West, Young Man, Go West' and I was on my way. I only got about 20 miles when I stopped at a beautiful spot, known at the time as Lake Village, now Lakeport, where I found employment with the B. J. Cole Manufacturing Company, melting old car wheels and pig iron for new machinery. Lake Village, NH, at the time was well filled with young life, fine manly young men and maidens to match. I cast my eye to leeward and spied a maiden by the name of Orpha E. Alexander and so it came to pass."

Orpha was born 28th of January, 1855 in Barnstom, Quebec Province, Canada, daughter of Arba and Matilda (Bishop) Alexander. their marriage took place in the home of Levi Allen, the clergyman who performed the ceremony, followed by a reception at her parents' home in Lake Village. According to John F., he was 25 years old and Orpha was 17 on that momentous occasion, April 25, 1872 and that Orpha was a social, witty, jolly lass and he a sober, sedate, iron smelter.

Prior to their marriage, John F. was rooming in the nearby Village of Gilford and was busy in his spare time learning how to cut and form tin from an old tinsmith who had a small shop behind John F.'s rooming house. Naturally, he gave this up in favor of his child bride and the potential of starting a family of his own. A son, Clayton P. Olin, was born June 14, 1873 in Lake Village, NH. No other births were recorded for John F. and Orpha until 19 years later when a daughter, Myrtle P., was born on 24 April 1892.

The job at the Cole Foundry was heavy, hot, dirty, and dangerous work, but it did pay well. His father kept urging John F. to leave the foundry, accept the will of the Lord, and become a preacher. After 15 years working for the Cole Foundry, he finally promised his father that he would try, at least temporarily, the clergy profession.

John and Orpha Olin returned to Windham County, VT and stayed with his mother's brother's family in Brattleboro. While there, he attended the Methodist Church in Guilford to listen to his father preach the Gospel. John then went down to Bernardston, MA, to attend another Methodist service just to ensure his feelings of righteousness. He sent a letter to Orpha in Brattleboro to tell her that he and another fellow (referred to as his Massachusetts Chum) were going to take a two-week course in Ministry. The two men rented a furnished apartment in Greenfield, MA, keeping bachelor hall, and began participating in Camp Ground religious services. It was not a money making experience for them, and John found that his funds were rapidly dwindling. He found a job making wooden boxes in a small factory along the Connecticut River in South Hadley, MA. Not thoroughly convinced that Methodism was right for him, he decided to attend a couple of Catholic and Baptist services in Hadley, MA. He allowed himself to be baptized in the waters of a canal in Hadley. A few Sundays later, John F. Olin met his wife, Orpha Alexander's sister who had married Levi McKinstry. Both Levi and Miriam McKinstry were

qualified ministers, known as Reverends in the Methodist Church and were serving in Springfield, MA. They convinced John to stop his foolishness, go back to his family, sign up with the Methodist organization, and service his Master.

The Methodist Church organization was desperately in need of supply or circuit ministers and was willing to give the sincere and energetic couple a chance in 1884. Their travels took them through Vermont and New Hampshire, into Maine, and into bordering Quebec, Canada. The Olins finally accepted the Methodist Church, later renamed the Union Church, in the very small village of Lyman, NH. The Union Church was also recognized as the "Yellow Meeting House" only to be painted white by the time John F. and Orpha arrived in 1889. Rev. John F. Olin considered it a privilege to preach the Gospel to the good people of Lyman and considered it an honor to preach "by proxy" in foreign countries of China and India. He kept his conversation loaded with scriptural quotations in his declining years.

Rev. John and Orpha Olin bought several pieces of property in the Town of Lyman. the first recorded was December 13, 1889 when Lucy C. Moulton sold to John F. Olin "all my right title and interest in and to all the real estate in said Lyman of which the late Captain Calvin Titus died, seized the homestead of the late Captain Titus, now owned and occupied by John F. Olin." The Moulton and Titus families were early and well respected residents of Lyman. John F. bought and sold property to and from the sons of Captain Titus.

Rev. Olin's contribution to the public included considerably more than his spiritual efforts. Over the years he held virtually every position of responsibility in the Town of Lyman: Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Town Auditor, Overseer of the Poor, member of the school boards, Trustee of the Public Library, Justice of the Peace, Postmaster, and merchant.

The celebration of John F. and Orpha's 25th Wedding Anniversary brought out over 50 people from the hills and valleys, through rain and mud to offer their congratulations. The participants brought their own refreshment and presented gifts at the Olin home in Lyman. Their son, Clayton, presented an elegant clock to his parents, and their five-year-old daughter, Myrtle, presented a beautiful bouquet of roses and lilies. Family, friends, and neighbors continued recognizing the Olins' wedding anniversaries.

—Photo Courtesy of Cleland R. Stephens

The Rev. John F. and Orpha Alexander Olin's family, Clayton P. Olin and Myrtle P. Olin, ca 1896

The Olins' golden anniversary in 1922 was very special. A musical program was presented by local Lyman musicians in the Olin home. Again, refreshments, including a wedding cake made by their daughter, Myrtle, who by now was married and had a son, and coffee was served. Rev. and Mrs. Olin were highly esteemed by the large circle of friends and relatives. In 1938, the retired aging couple were honored on their 66th Anniversary for having accomplished so much good in their long and useful lives.

The Lyman couple were feted again in 1941 on their 69th Anniversary. Orpha was asked to say something about her early years of marriage. In her words, "As a blushing young bride of John F. Olin, I was given quite a 'dressing down' by a brother (not my husband) for my lack of ability in the pantry. I forgot to put any soda in my first batch of doughnuts and, well, they just weren't much to eat. However, in the past 69 years I have had a lot of experience and have made a lot of doughnuts, some good and some not so good, but my husband has never complained very much. Today, he's as hale and hearty as one would expect to find in a man who is nearly 95 years old."

86-year-old Rev. John F. Olin and his 80-year-old wife, Orpha Alexander Olin, celebrate their 61st Wedding Anniversary, 1933, in Lyman, NH.

—Photo and Information Courtesy of Cleland R. Stephens

5. "WORK IS NEARLY FINISHED": Mr. and Mrs. John F. Olin, Lyman, NH, 67 years married. The Olins were married in Lakeport, NH, on April 25, 1872. Mr. Olin, who will be 94 years old next June, writes:

"I was raised a farmer; trade, iron melter. I have been a resident of Lyman, N. H., 51 years. I have served the town as Clerk, Treasurer, Auditor, Overseer of the Poor, member of School Board, Trustee of Public Library, Farmer, Merchant, Postmaster, Justice of the Peace, Pastor of the Union Church for 15 years, and now I guess my work is nearly finished.

"You ask for a word of advice from us to stabilize young married people, and that word is *Love*, the greatest thing in the world. I have found nothing like it to keep people on the sunny side of life — true, clean love. Grapple to it with hooks of steel. The Lord bless you."

John F. and Orpha Olin were fifth place winners of a Golden Wedding contest conducted by *The American Agriculturist*, on March 30, 1940.

The Olin's last wedding anniversary celebration, their 70th, occurred in April 1942. Later in December, the Rev. John F. Olin passed away at the grand old age of 96. Four years later, 1946, Orpha Alexander Olin passed on at age 91. She had lived out her remaining years with her daughter, Myrtle, the wife of William H. Stephens, Jr., of Lyman.

In a chart prepared by Clayton P. Olin, son of John F., Clayton defines the Joseph[3] Olin lines as he knew them in the 1930s. A box note includes a statement by John F.:

"In regard to the Joseph Olin, born 1740, I have among the family papers the following: My father's grandfather's name was Joseph born in Rhode Island, came to Guilford, VT when that was a wilderness, 5 feet and 1/2 inch high, broad shouldered, strong man, prominent head, small black eyes and brown hair."

In a letter dated October 24, 1940, Lisbon, NH to George O. Olin, Nineveh, NY, 94-year-old John F. Olin wrote in long-hand the following:

My Dear Cousin George:

I was very much pleased to receive your kind and friendly letter, and to be assured I have another true-hearted religious relative.

My father was Rev. Charles Olin, born in Guilford, VT about 1808. A brother was John Olin who settled in Jackson, PA, my uncle. They had a brother, Calvin who settled in at home and afterward went west and a brother George, who settled in Wisconsin. They had three or more sisters and their father's name was Reuben. His father's name was Joseph, and either he or his father, Joseph, bought a small farm in Guilford, VT, April 20, 1786 for 20 pounds, estimated to be nine acres, with buildings. I visited this old house several years ago and found the buildings gone but the cellar wall built of slate stones and evidently as good as when first built. The Olins being an honest upright bunch are proud of each other and always glad to hear of the prosperity of each other,

With best wishes to you and yours,
I remain yours as ever.
John F. Olin

Rev. John F. Olin retained his sense of humor until his dying days. On their 68th wedding anniversary he said, "Our preacher came to call on us the other day. He said that at our age we should be thinking about the hereafter. We told him, oh, we do all the time. No matter where we are in the parlor, upstairs or in the kitchen we ask ourselves 'what are we here after?'

He also made the comment that, "us old folds are worth a fortune; with silver in our hair, gold in our teeth, stones in our kidneys, lead in our feet, and gas in our stomachs."

In a more serious vein John told his audience, "I am no longer able to tamp the sand to make the mold; to melt iron for castings; or to sing

the harvest songs."

John F. knew the value of romance in his marital relationship. He wrote a poem to his young wife, Orpha, on their first Wedding Anniversary and continued to do the same every year through their 70th Anniversary. The only poem found of his written for Orpha was this short one for their 69th anniversary.

"We are waiting a little while
To watch and wonder and pray:
And then the silver cord will part asunder
And we shall drift away."

The Last Will and Testament of John F. Olin

To Whom It May Concern:

That I John F. Olin, being of sound mind hereby make this my last will and testament. To my wife Orpha E. Olin and my daughter Myrtle P. Stephens, I will and bequeath home, that part of the Erastus Fisk Est., situated on Parker Hill, consisting of horse barn, 30 by 30 feet, two woodsheds, double tenement house and ell and six acres more or less of tillage land, bounded on the north by land of Elbridge Blake on the east by the highway leading to Bath, on south-west by highway leading to Monroe, and on the west on land of Wensle Blake.

I will and bequeath to my wife Orpha E. Olin our household furniture, bed and bedding, dishes, cooking utensils, stoves, sideboard, pictures, organ, souvenirs, papers, and books not otherwise disposed of.

I will and bequest to my daughter Myrtle P. Stephens my interest in the safe, and Family Encyclopedia of the Bible.

To my son Clayton P. Olin, I will my 9 acre lot situated on highway from Parker Hill to Moulton Hill, about a mile south of Parker Hill church bounded east, by highway leading to Moulton Hill, south by land of Clayton P. Olin, west by land of W. Blake, and north by land of W.H. Stephens, Jr. (This parcel of land has been deeded to Mrs. John F. Olin and Mrs. Myrtle P. Stephens, Jr. but they hereby release their claim.)

I also will to my son Clayton P. Olin, the Olin Homestead at Moultonboro, NH, situated on the mountain highway about two miles south of Sandwich, New Hampshire town line consisting of house and barn and two acres of land more or less, which was purchased by Rev.

Charles Olin of William Sleeper, about 1858.

I also will to W. H. Stephens, Jr., the old creamery building with garden and two rods of land west of the building down to land joining his lot, and I also will to him my bookcase in our parlor.

I will to my grandson Cleland R. Stephens, typewriter and writing desk in our sitting room.
[sic]

John F. Olin Libson, NH
May 13, 1940

CLAYTON P. OLIN, SON OF JOHN F. and ORPHA OLIN

Rev. John F. and Orpha (Alexander) Olin's only son, Clayton P. Olin, was born on June 14, 1873 in Lakeport, New Hampshire where his parents were married and his father worked in a foundry. He moved with his parents to VT, ME, Canada and NH wherever his father was asked to go as a Methodist supply or circuit minister. The OLIN Family settled permanently in Lyman, NH about 1888, when Clayton was 15 years old. His education was "hit and miss" from attending as many as six different grade schools, often leaving in the middle of a term and entering another school in mid-term. He managed to finish high school and made excellent use of his education, particularly in current events and knowledge of world affairs.

After graduating from the Libson High School, Clayton went to Boston, MA to seek his fortune. He found employment at one of the railroad freight stations as an expressman. Within a couple of years, in the interest of improving his situation, he took and passed the examination for a mail carrier in Boston. Disillusioned by the demands of big city life, Clayton returned home to his parents in Lyman. He obtained a job carrying mail on the Star Route between Libson and Lyman Post Offices. The job was eliminated in a few months when RFD (Rural Free Delivery) was inaugurated in November, 1902 since Lyman was then served by mail routes from the Libson Post Office. Clayton invested what savings he had in three parcels of land in the Town of Lyman.

Perhaps the rigors of city life in Boston were immaterial when you come down to it, because somewhere along the way he became smitten with little Susie Mace who provided him with the most likely reason for returning home. Clayton P. Olin and Susie Mace, born 16 April 1879,

became husband and wife three days before Christmas, December 22, 1901.

Clayton P. Olin and his wife, Susie Mace Olin at their Lisbon, NH home ca 1944.

—*Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family*

Much like the Olins of the past, Clayton devoted hours to reading, not only to himself, but to others as well. In the late 1930s he received a prize in the Chautauqua course of reading. He was well versed in current events and not bashful in expressing his views. Clayton became interested in the OLIN Family Genealogy shortly after his marriage and made personal contact with George S. Nye and C. C. Olin, the two authors of the first published books on the John(2) and Henry(2) branches, respectively, of the original John(1) OLIN Family.

Clayton pulled no punches in his caustic remarks with Nye and C. C. Olin for not recognizing the Joseph(2) branch of the OLIN Family. Receiving no satisfaction from them, Clayton decided to search, compile and document the history of his branch himself. However, he found that his resources were limited and some members of his family were not cooperative. He discovered that he enjoyed genealogical challenges. He broadened the scope of his research to include the other branches of Olins; the Olin intermarried branches, and finally, after considering himself a professional genealogical researcher, any family upon request. Consequently, Clayton received hundreds of queries for his help. He answered them all and solicited help from them on his own Olin search. Clayton participated in genealogical query and answer columns in different newspapers and periodicals, most notably *The Boston Transcript.*

No one knows what wealth of OLIN Family history Clayton had accumulated. When he died, the bulk of his research papers literally died with him. The papers were either accidently destroyed or mysteriously disappeared. Only a few pages remain in his immediate family and a few letters of his correspondence were saved by his interested cousins: Florence Lowe Olmstead Codner Olmstead and George O. Olin. His letters to George O. Olin were mostly of genealogical concerns, but his letters to Florence Olmstead were full of witty, interesting remarks or stories, some caustic, some mellow. He definitely was poured in the same mold as his father, grandfather and his great-grandfather, Reuben Olin.

The following are excerpts taken from Clayton's letters to his cousin, Florence Olmstead, preceded by the date and followed by author's comments.

Lisbon, NH
December 7, 1941

Dear Cousin:

Your welcome letter duly received. Sorry to hear of your accident, hope you are as good as new now. And about Leona did the going get too tough for her? Does Leon live near Oneonta? - - - Do you drive a car?

All the time I have been writing to you I was thinking you all lived near together the same as when I was writing your grandmother, Irene. I did not realize you people were spreading out and scattered all over.

Years ago I did carry the mail but now someone brings the mail and leaves it in my door yard. As for myself I am just a rough neck and a farmer on the side. You know what they say about the ministers son being a black sheep; well, my father and grandfather were both ministers, and my mother had a sister that was a minister, so you see, I got a double dose.

Not much snow here yet. Thanksgiving there was about 3 inches but all gone, warm and mild here this last week. Now Old Man Winter is looking over the top of the mountains send a lot of wind and snow down this way, and Jack is with him too. . . .

Clayton P. Olin

The referenced Irene was a daughter of John Olin, a brother to Clayton's grandfather, Charles, and mother of referenced Leon Lowe. Referenced Leona, is the daughter of Leon, who supposedly took her own life.

Lisbon, NH
February 1, 1942

Dear Cousin:

. . . You were saying that you had to do the work of three women, now I have been thinking that your old man might get him a couple of more wives, but probably he would get sore when he had to buy three pair of shoes instead of one; anyway I think you can hold down your job for the OLIN women are smart and ONE is worth three ordinary mill-run women; also it will help to keep you from becoming overweight, and if you have weather 20 below you will need to step around fast to keep warm.

Speaking of cold you know the old refrain: - "Some like it hot some like it cold." You should come out here if you don't like the cold, the lowest I have seen the thermometer this winter is 12 below and hardly any snow up to February 1st, around 7 inches New Years that stayed on about 10 days, mostly ground bare, like April. On January 21, I saw horses and cattle out grazing, something I never saw before in the middle of winter in NH.

Now you must be careful about catching mice. They have a saying here that if you kill a rat, that six of his relatives will come to his funeral and take up residence where he left off. Once upon a time there was a big King rat that was very fond of soup, but he did not like to pay out good money to buy meat to make his soup, so he said he would give a prize to anyone that would tell him how to make soup out of clear water; well one of his lady friends gave him this receipt: she said that if he would place a dish of water on the stove and when it got to boiling he would jump up and sit on the edge of the dish and dangle his tail in the water. He would have his soup without buying meat.

I am enclosing that snapshot you have been asking for, you will notice he thinks he is some pumpkin, he would like to tell Roosevelt or Hitler just what is the matter with them and how to run their job. He is mulish and contrary, if you say it is going to rain he will say it is not, just to start something. I suspect this contrary streak comes from

my mother's side of the house . . . .
[sic]

Clayton P. Olin

The referenced snapshot is one of Clayton.

Lisbon, NH
April 6, 1942

Dear Cousin:

. . . While you were having a run of sickness in your family (Do your grandchildren live with you?) we have had an odd string of accidents here.
FIRST - My mother who is 86 and is lame through her knees and feet has to use a cane and has hard work to handle herself; went to the outside door and tried to open it, the door stuck and while she was pulling the knob slipped off and she fell over and struck her shoulder on the floor and broke her arm up near the shoulder, the Dr. had to take her to the hospital to have an exray and put on a plaster cast, some thought the bone would not knit she was so old but it has and she is ok now, as far as that goes.
SECOND - My son-in-law --twisted his knee out of joint when he slipped and fell with a loaded egg crate . . . .
THIRD - While this was coming off and before I heard about it, I had a log fall on my ancle and I have been laid up several weeks. I am hopping around on crutchs now.
FOURTH - My brother-in-law a carpenter fell off a building up three stories, before he could pick himself up a 2 inch plank came down endways and struck him very near the center of his chest and broke two ribs and he has been laid up several weeks, thretened with pneumonia but is getting along so he can drive his car now.
FIFTH - A cousin while crossing the street slipped on ice covered with snow and hurt her back, when she fell she tried to save herself by throwing her hands behind her and broke both wrist.
NOW WHAT DO YOU THINK O THAT COMING ALL IN A BUNCH?. . .

Clayton P. Olin.

[sic]

The referenced son-in-law is the husband of Clayton's only child,

Ruth, who married Norman Fox. The referenced brother-in-law is William H. Stephens, husband of Clayton's sister, Myrtle. The referenced cousin is not known.

Lisbon, NH
May 12, 1942

Dear Cousin:

. . .If I had waited two days before mailing my last letter I could have added a sixth accident to the list I sent you, - a man that married one of my cousins cut off his thumb and the ends of two fingers sawing wood. . . .

. . .The 70th anniversary was quite a gathering in. It all started from a lady here sending out word to their friends to all come and bring a dime on the night of my father and mother's anniversary. There was about 80 turned out, one car came from Lakeport 90 miles these people used to live in town; another car came from Canada with four, two cars from Springfield, Mass with eight and a nephew from Northfield, VT, student in Norwich Military Academy, he lives in Springfield, Mass. These are all my mother's relatives, the rest were from near by. . . .

[sic]

Clayton P. Olin

Lisbon, NH
December 8, 1943

Dear Cousin:

. . .I have had some terrible "tuff" going down on the farm this summer (and now the old typewriter is acting up, plunks one letter down on top of the other, and steps off towards the left while I expect it to move to the right, kind of frisky and coltish, feeling its oats or something.)

I am disgusted with all the restrictions placed on the farmer by the government; I bought my seed potatoes and fertilizer, had to make out a blank telling them how much fertilizer I had on hand and how much I used the year before, and then they did not let me have the kind I

wanted.

I bought this fertilizer of the Merrimack Farmers Ezchange of Concord, about 100 miles from here, this fertilizer was to be delivered at the farm, but they wrote me that the State did not allow trucks to go over 25 miles from the place where they were owned; I wrote and asked them if the State was not delivering "Booze" here in Lisbon? The State of New Hampshire is in the liquor business, they have stores here in Lisbon and all over the State, and no one else can sell liquor, and they have trucks to supply these stores, they do not call the Booze stores, the polite name is "Package Stores", and between you and me they are making a nice little profit, whatever you may think of a Governor running a chain of Booze stores. Anyway a Governor has to have votes or he won't be Governor, and when the matter was presented to him that if his booze trucks came to Lisbon it would not do to stop a farmers fertilizer. I got my fertilizer delivered on a ten wheel truck from Concord.

They have another funny law here in NH. A farmer can get his truck licensed for $2.00 per year if he does not go over 5 miles away from his farm. Now my son-in-law bought stove wood from a farmer at a distance of two miles. This farmer had a ton and a half truck standing in his door yard with a $2.00 license but he would not be allowed to deliver this wood unless he got a regular license that cost around $40.00 but he could go to the village empty and bring back a load of grain. We farmers have the Truck Drivers Union to thank for this, to boss the people and the state.

After getting my fertilizer I had to make out an application for gasoline for my tractor. I did not get an allowance until the first of July and then only one gallon per day. (I used 8 gallons one day in haying) This was so small that I gave up all thought of raising any crops, and saved it all for haying. Meanwhile while waiting I had hired a tractor to get part of my land ready for potatoes. Then when I got to haying it rained about all the time. I was lucky to get two days of sun out of ten days, and got about every load of hay wet. . . .

Have you any snow out your way yet? We have a good start on an old fashioned winter. It began early in November and we had one big fall of snow the papers say there was 53 inches in part of the mountains where the State plows the roads. Here where I live we did not have any mail from Saturday until Thursday, something I never knew to happen before. The highway agent got the idea the roads would have to be shoveled out by hand. There are some 100 miles of roads in town, one farmer next place with 30 cows and milk can full made a vee shaped plow and hitched it behind his tractor and opened

up more road in 3 hours than the shovelers open in 2 days, they are now open.

There were four young women here that went down to Connecticut to work in a factory, they had difficulty finding a place to stay, but at last found a room for rent at $80.00 per month, they all four lived in this one room. But they tell me there is no inflation is U.S.A.

. . .Old man winter is around this morning, 8 to 10 below and a high wind. Well there is one thing about it I do not live in Germany and have my house blown out from under me. . . .
[sic]

Clayton P. Olin

This letter was an excellent narrative of the hardships that faced the small farmer and women factory workers during the years of WWII.

Lisbon, NH
January 26, 1944

Dear Cousin:

. . .Can't do the work I used to but I can eat alright and sleep well. I can't make myself believe that I am 70 years old. Just at present I am trying to yard pulp and logs that were out before the snow came and they are buried deep, two feet of snow or more, and is a slow and tedious job. . . .

I should have answered your letter before but I was waiting to get some pictures to send you, and that takes patience these days. I sent an order in early December expecting to receive them before Christmas but have just got them, January 24th. . . .

Clayton P. Olin

Lisbon, NH
March 13, 1944

Dear Cousin:

. . .There are a lot of wildcats running around here this winter, two have been killed, there is a $20.00 bounty on them, others have been seen. I saw tracks where one passed along in my woods. He was going on the jump and would make a depression in the snow about 10

inches wide by 14, oval shape, jump about 8 feet, or two jumps to a rod. . . .

There is a boon in the lumber business here, all kinds of lumber in big demand, pine logs sell for $18.00 piled on the skidway beside the road, per thousand, ie 115 cu. ft. Spruce is worth more, hardwood pulp, cut 4 feet and piled beside the roadside brings $10.50 per cord; this includes rock maple, soft maple, yellow birch, white birch, black cherry, etc. . . .

Well winter has broke at last. Sunday it began to thaw and today it is raining hard and I hope to see some bare land within the next two months; going to be pretty deep snow in the woods for the farmer that tries to make sugar. They the dictators have set a price of $3.39 per gallon for syrup this spring.

I see by the papers that Lady R. is visiting the Virgin Islands. when F.D.R. returned from Teheran the papers were cautioning him about the awful chances he was taking to break his neck, but they do not worry about his wife.

Tomorrow is election day here and there are twenty names on the Republican ticket for delegates to the Republican convention. From these twenty we have to select seven. The political field does not seem to have any shortage of help. . . .

[sic] *Clayton P. Olin*

Clayton P. Olin, son of John F. Olin, ca 1944.

—Photo Courtesy of Cleland R. Stephens

In 1944, Clayton decided to take advantage of the high prices paid for pulp and hardwood. He gave the Johnson Lumber Company the right to cut and remove any standing merchantable soft and hard timber on three parcels

of land totaling 90 acres. The rights included the building of any camps and roads necessary to the removal operation. The Johnson Lumber Company had three-and-a-half years to complete the job.

Clayton and Susie Olin's only child, daughter, Ruth, married Norman Fox and had no surviving children leaving Clayton and Susie with no grandchildren. Clayton died on the third of January, 1948 with the funeral held at his daughter's house. He was in his 75th year, dying six years after his father. Susie Mace Olin passed away on the 29th of June, 1959 at age 80.

RUTH OLIN, DAUGHTER OF CLAYTON P. and SUSIE OLIN

Ruth Mae Olin was the only child of Clayton P. and Susie (Mace) Olin. She was born on 14th of April 1904 in the Town of Lyman, Grafton County, NH. She was reared in a happy home with an aunt and paternal grandparents nearby. She married a local fellow, Norman Fox, on 19th January 1932. He was born November 19, 1891.

Norman served some time as the Clerk for the Town of Lisbon. Behind their house in the Village of Lisbon, the Foxs' had a small barn. Norman liked chickens and became an expert in keeping his flock disease free and producing more eggs than his neighbors. He usually kept from 300 to 500 pullets on hand and calculated an 80% rate of return of eggs during the laying season. This was considered to be quite an accomplishment at the time. Feed consumption was immense and at high cost; yet Norman proved that a small flock of chickens could pay for itself.

One early spring day in 1942, Norman was taking a 30-dozen case of eggs to his store in his car. Just as he got the car door opened, he slipped. In doing so, he threw the case of eggs up above his head before he dropped to the ground and twisted his knee out of joint. Of the 30 dozen eggs, none were broken open and only two dozen cracked.

Ruth and Norman Fox had a son, George E. Fox, born on the 2nd of February 1940 who died six days later on the 8th day of February. They had no other children.

Both Ruth and Norman gave their time to local community activities. They never hesitated to volunteer their time. They particularly liked happy events such as church and school plays, parades, holiday celebrations, weddings and associated receptions.

Norman C. Fox died 1979 in Laconia, Belknap County, New

Hampshire and is buried in the Grove Cemetery, Lisbon, Grafton County, New Hampshire.

Ruth Olin Fox, after Norman's death, continued to share her experience and good will with the public.

In 1975, the New Hampshire Social Welfare Council sponsored Ruth Fox of Belmont as their representative of 54 Foster Grandparents in New Hampshire. She went off to the nation's Capital in Washington, DC, to attend the awards ceremony and presentation. Ruth Fox had worked as a Foster Grandparent with retarded children for ten years although she had no grandchildren of her own. Truly a remarkable and unselfish attitude.

The home of the first Foster Grandparents Program is in the New Hampshire State School in Laconia. Children with special needs receive the benefit of a person-to-person relationship with the 54 foster grandparents, aged 60 through 87 who participate in the program.

Ruth Mae Olin Fox suffered from crippling arthritis and loss of eyesight the last few years of her life. Yet, her faith in God and those around her never wavered. She died 24th March 1988 in Franklin, Belknap County, NH and is buried next to her husband in the Lisbon Grove Cemetery.

Ruth Olin Fox, daughter of Clayton and Susie Olin. Her husband, Norman Fox, wears the jacket. On her left is her cousin, George O. Olin.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

MYRTLE OLIN, DAUGHTER, OF JOHN F. and ORPHA OLIN

John F. and Orpha (Alexander) Olin's only daughter was born late in their productive years. She, Myrtle P. Olin, was born 24 April 1892 in Lyman, Grafton County, NH, 19 years after the birth of her brother, Clayton. Naturally, Myrtle was the darling of the OLIN Family, maturing early and maintaining the maturity with poise and dignity throughout her later years. Upon graduating from high school in Lisbon, she accepted teaching positions in the smaller local schools in Grafton County.

When she was 27 years old, Myrtle Olin married William H. Stephens, Jr. He was a local carpenter who was born 17 May 1899. Their marriage, 23 October 1920 resulted in an only child, Cleland Roy Stephens, born 12 December 1921 in Lyman, NH.

William H. Stephens, Jr. received considerable attention as a carpenter when he undertook the job of replacing the "struck by lightning" steeple of the "Yellow Meeting House" now known as the Union Church.

Myrtle Olin Stephens died 3rd of April 1972 and her husband, William, died the 17th of August 1979. Both were laid to rest in Lyman Center Cemetery.

CLELAND ROY STEPHENS SON OF WILLIAM H. and MYRTLE STEPHENS

Cleland Roy Stephens, the only child of William H. and Myrtle P. (Olin) Stephens, Jr. was born December 12, 1921 in Lyman, NH.

When his grandfather died in 1942, he left Cleland his well-used typewriter and writing desk from his sitting room. Cleland chose photography as his hobby and he proved a natural ability during his teen years.

When Cleland left high school, he left home for a job at Windsor Locks, CT working as apprentice surveyor for the United States Government. The project involved laying out of sizable aircraft landing strips. He took advantage of off hours to take flying lessons both on the ground and in the air. He was experiencing an exciting time in his life. In his words, "It wasn't getting the plane into the air or flying that kinda shook me up, it was when the plane was pointed down or coming

in to land at 80 - 100 mph. It just seemed to me, if something went wrong, we would make one heck of a big hole in the ground." Cleland got his license to fly a single-engine plane when he was 20 years old.

After receiving his letter from the President of the United States, he reported to Fort Devens, MA 9 October 1942 and was discharged from the same place 3 December 1945.

His first military haircut was more of a shear job, like those that remove the wool from sheep. When he went home on his first furlough, his parents hardly recognized him. While home, he put his late model Chevy sedan with the gear shift on the steering column into storage for the duration of the war.

Cleland was stationed in England July 1943 to July 1944. The remainder of his time was in France.

Mail took a long time to cross the Atlantic, sometimes as long as three months. There would be occasions when letters would pile up overnight on both sides of the ocean. Special boxes of goodies sent by his parents or Sunday School children made it to him more often than not. The first Christmas in England, he sent the English-type Christmas cards home. They were black and white with no holiday colors.

His associates in England did not particularly like the name, "Cleland," preferring to call him "Steve," a nickname based on his surname. Life in England did have some exciting moments beyond the effects of war. Cleland and his buddies visited London, stayed at the Strand Palace Hotel, and slept in late the next morning. The hotel dining room impressed them with its large round tables, draped with dazzling white cloths reaching to the floor, service set for two and hugh arm chairs. The food served was excellent, but portions were small.

In a letter dated 26 December 1943, from England to his parents in New Hampshire, T/Sgt. Cleland R. Stephens, #31175467, R & S Co., 360th Engineers, GB Regiment wrote:

"Well, Christmas is over for another year, making the second one since I was with you.

We all hope the next one sees everyone back home again.

There was no work yesterday for me, so I took it easy for a change.

Our dinner was very good, and consisted of all the turkey we could eat and everything to go with it. I did not know that the army could get out such a good meal.

After dinner Campbell, fellow here with me, and I went to a small town by bus. Most all buses here are double-decked and therefore a little top heavy, but one soon gets used to that.

We went to a cinema to help pass the afternoon and saw Abbot and Costello in a picture which we figured must have been at least two years old. In some places they seem to get old films most of the time, must be they make more pounds that way.

After the show we were walking up the street and decided it was getting about time to eat again. There did not seem to be any place right in that neighborhood, so we asked a fellow passing along, if he could tell us a good place. He thought for a moment and then said he knew of a little place which was about ten minutes walk from there and he would show us the way.

I know that I asked him quite a lot of questions and got very little information about the place, so continued to walk until we came to this plumbing shop. The show windows had plumbing fixtures of all kinds in them and when he stopped and said this was the place we didn't know what kind of mess we had gotten into.

Anyway we went on in and he opened the door into one of the nicest little flats that I have seen anywhere over here. He told his wife that he had brought a couple of visitors for tea.

It was a total surprise to her as well as to us, but anyway, we had a good supper and were invited to call again. It seems that we were the first Yanks they had come in contact with, and as they had a cousin who was at one time in the States taking some training and was treated as if at home decided to do some kindness in return.

In all I can say I had a very good Christmas an am looking forward to a real one next year.

[sic]

Cleland R. Stephens

On August 30, 1947, W. Springfield, Massachusetts, about a year after his honorable discharge from the Army, Cleland married Mary Eleanor Sullivan, an Irish girl from Springfield, MA just across the border from Windsor Locks, CT.

Cleland and Mary E. (Sullivan) Stephens had three children: Linda S., Donna L. and Robert C. Linda married John E. Flaskamper; 1968 and thoughtfully provided her parents with a grandson, Shaun E. Flaskamper, born 1968.

Linda and John Flaskamper have a thriving leather goods business in a sprawling complex located on the site of her great-grandfather's home in Lyman, NH. John F. Olin had his General Store and at one time the Lyman Post Office at the same place. This manufacturing company is known locally as "THE STITCHERY" and employs 30 to 40 people. Linda's sister, Donna, plays a key part in the business by being the office and business manager. The leather company produces leather products for dozens of customers and specialize in their own top-of-the-line leather goods known as "Executive Leatherware."

Robert C. Stephens married Diana Jean Flavell, daughter of Donald and Sylvia (LaClair) Flavell in May 1985 at Manchester, Hartford County, CT. Diana works as a secretary and Robert is a draftsman, performing CAD machine design. Their daughter, Shannon Rae was born 18 September 1991, in Springfield, Hamden County, MA.

Chapter 30

Son, George Olin, and Lucinda Migrate to Wisconsin

When George left the home of his parents, Reuben and Hannah (Nichols) Olin, in Guilford, VT, 1832, he was 20 years old and the tallest of his brothers. The topic of the day was westward migration. Lands in Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa Territory were there for the taking. Land speculators sent word to eastern families portraying the near west as the land of milk and honey, the perfect place to settle and to share in new found prosperity.

Thousands of eastern farmers became enamored with the possibilities of success if they were willing to accept the hardships of relocating and establishing a future for their descendants. After all, their ancestors had already gambled the same thing when they moved inland from the coast to Vermont and again to New York and Pennsylvania. These farming families were discouraged with increasingly crowded conditions and the nutrient stripped soil. Consequently, many farmers sold off most of what they owned to head west with their families, taking what little personal belongings they could. Abandoned farms sprang up overnight throughout the north-eastern states. Some of these farms were still productive, with a decent, livable house and out-buildings.

Some of the more cautious, less adventurous young men, single or married with a family, elected not to travel to the near west. Instead, they negotiated for an abandoned farm in New York or Pennsylvania. When they did not have money to equip and buy a farm, they found it rather easy to rent or work on shares. George Olin, with limited resources, chose to work a sizable farm on 50/50 shares with the owner. His farm, in 1832, was located on Turner Hill Road off the north side of Charlotte Creek Road near Davenport, Delaware County, NY. Other Guilford, VT families were settling nearby on the low hills that were adorned with the bright splashes of fall colors as summer faded into fall.

George worked hard, having learned to do so from his father,

Reuben, and was able to produce good crops of hay and grain. However, the first winter before he was able to plant his crops, George kept busy cutting and splitting wood, repairing what little equipment he had, purchasing a team of horses and a few head of cattle, making repairs to his buildings, and performing the daily chores necessary with a farm operation. After a full day of farm work, he was in no mood to cook, keep his house in order, or to wash and repair his clothes. By the middle of winter, he made a special effort to join in the social events of the community with one thought in mind. He needed a wife, not only to share his bed, but to assume household responsibilities and share in his dream of someday migrating farther west. George picked Mary Turner, two years younger than he, from the neighboring town of Kortright. Mary accepted his proposal without any reservation and they were married during the winter of 1832-33.

Meanwhile, George's oldest brother, John, decided to move his family from Johnsburg, Warren County, south to Delaware County, NY, locating in Franklin, a few miles west of George. Their youngest brother, Calvin, after several visits to his brother, bought a farm about a half mile from George. Between 1835-1840 there were three Olin brothers, sons of Reuben and Hannah Olin, living near each other in Delaware County, NY. At least two of their sisters, Sally and Lucinda, were frequent visitors to the farms. Other Olins from VT and CT had also settled for a time in the county and, as these Olin brothers, remained only a short time before moving on westward.

George and Mary E. (Turner) Olin's first child was a boy, born 29 January, 1834, whom they named John Turner Olin: John after George's oldest brother and Turner after Mary's family name. John Turner Olin became a legend of his own. It is believed that George and Mary lost a child or two during infancy before the birth of their second recorded son, Silas Milton, born 1839; followed by Orrin O., 1840; Wyman D., 1842; and, finally, a daughter, Mary E., born in 1844. All were born in Delaware County, NY.

These children were very healthy and were taught by their parents to work hard and to respect their elders and peers. John, Silas, and possibly Orrin attended their first years of school in "a frame building of good condition" 18 feet square with one painted blackboard. They sat on plain benches on three sides of the room. They considered it a special privilege to sit in the back row where they could rest their backs

against the wall. Their school district, #16, was a joint district involving children from the towns of Kortright and Davenport. John, especially, was fortunate to have the first teacher in the county who came directly from a New York approved normal School for Teacher Training. Although older children, particularly boys, often stayed home to help with farm chores during summer sessions, they were expected to attend full-time during the winter.

The McGuffey's Eclectic Reader, a set of six books, had become popular in the classroom by the mid 1840s. Children would refer to these books as their educational bibles well into the 20th Century. John and Silas practiced their penmanship both at school and at home using home-cut quill pens dipped in ink made from tree bark, tea, and iron.

By 1845, George and Mary felt confident about moving on to the near west, perhaps to Wisconsin or the Iowa Territory. They auctioned off their portion of the farm equipment, cattle, crops, and major household goods keeping only bare necessities for travel. After settling with the owner of the Delaware farm, George established a bank account which allowed him to carry a letter of credit as well as cash.

The OLIN Family traveled about 75 miles by stage coach to Ilion on the upper reaches of the Mohawk River where they boarded a 100-passenger canal-packet bound for Buffalo, NY via the Erie Canal. George negotiated the fare for his family to 1½ cents per mile per person, a rate lower and more compatible for families migrating to the west. The packet Captain boasted that they would travel west at speeds of four miles per hour pulled by teams of large draft horses. Travel by canal was considered a luxury compared to the stagecoach. The long packet cabins were lined with cushioned benches leaving room in the center for dining tables. The benches folded out from the walls, allowing for sleeping accommodations. The Olin packet had a small library and a writing desk for those who became bored with the smooth ride. However, boredom was not a problem for the Olins. People were leaving or boarding at nearly all stops. Card games, sing-a-longs, debates on politics or temperance kept their interest until the bunks were made up for the night. Upon reaching Buffalo, the OLIN Family transferred to a steamship enroute through Lake Erie to Detroit, Michigan. Here they transferred again, this time to a sailing ship that took several days to travel north through Lake Huron and south, the full length of Lake Michigan to Chicago, IL.

—Photo Courtesy of Rochester, NY, Public Library

Typical Erie Canal passenger packet boat, similar to the one George and Mary Turner Olin and children traveled on through New York State on the way to Iowa Territory, 1845. It proved to be an enjoyable smooth ride, even more so during fair weather.

After some delay to acquire a team of horses, a wagon, some simple farm tools and seeds, George and Mary and their five children started out for the Iowa Territory. They made their way through Rockford, Illinois, crossing the Mississippi River by ferry to reach the Wapsipinicon River. They were forced to turn north to look for a safe place to ford the river. After safely crossing, George finally picked his site on a small creek, a tributary of the Cedar River, well into the drift plains of Iowa. Although they had entered hostile Indian country 300 miles from Chicago, the Olins never experienced or received any threats from the Indians. The location George selected for their home was on a slight rise that featured a lone but dignified walnut tree. Both banks of the small stream were dotted with straggly, stunted willow trees, mostly in the form of brush.

Mary's enthusiasm began to dim as she looked in all directions, seeing only undulating acres of open prairie. She half-heartedly agreed with George's choice for his farm. George, however, was enthusiastic

about the deep, dark, stone-free soil.

He was undaunted by the lack of trees for lumber to build a log cabin or a frame house. In Chicago George had heard what to expect and had a rough idea of how to build a sod house, called a "soddy." He had no choice but to cut the only tree of substance, the walnut tree, using the split butt log for roof rafters across his six-foot high walls built from squares of sod cut from the soil. It was a small, 12' x 12' single room with a sod and twig fireplace at one end and opening for a door at the opposite end. He cut some of the willow brush from along the creek to place across the roof rafters to hold more sod squares for a supposedly tight, rain-proof roof. However, it did leak at times, much to the dismay of Mary and the smaller children.

George made good use of the rest of the walnut tree to frame the doorway and to make the door, a table, some benches and to fashion beds of sorts. Hinges for the door were made from leather straps. Every leftover branch or chip from the walnut tree and the willows were saved to use sparingly for cooking and heat in the small fireplace. Actually, the soddy was quite comfortable during the winter and summer, but it was very crowded with two adults and five children.

While the Olins were testing their survival of body and mind, Brigham Young, the new Mormon leader who was born in Whitingham, Windham County, VT began leading his followers on a mass migration from Nauvoo, IL, westward to the Great Basin in the Rocky Mountains known as the Great Salt Lake Valley. It was about 1847-48 that the initial hundreds of Mormons passed westward, miles to the south of the OLIN Family.

George's first crop of wheat yielded beyond his expectation. The bright green of new growth, hastened by above normal rainfall and normal sunshine reached shoulder height without lodging before maturity. Everyone worked long hours hand-harvesting and threshing the wheat. The only way for George to get his wheat to the Mississippi River ports was by using his own wagon and team. Four days round-trip south to Cedar Rapids would send his wheat down the Cedar River by raft to the Mississippi River port at Toolesboro, noted today for its many Indian worship and burial mounds. After paying the river rafters, George had little profit. However, if he hauled the grain east on a six-day round trip to Dubuque, another port on the Mississippi River, his profit would be impressive.

That year, 1846, with its abundant rains, provided George false assurance for future success. The following two years were disastrous with little or no wheat production. Mary and the children had been very patient and uncomplaining, respecting their father's efforts. However, serious problems were developing in the family. Morale became a big factor since the nearest neighbor lived 12 miles away and no school of any kind was available. The wood supply for the fireplace was used up on both sides of the creek for over two miles in both directions. Perhaps Mary felt the loneliness more than her children. She probably never saw another woman more than once a year with scarcely enough time to become acquainted let alone time to share her thoughts. She missed the fellowship and guidance of a church and its members. She could still pray to God, often wondering aloud why he made life so difficult and unbearable. She missed the chirping sounds and bright flashes of color of birds which were dependant on trees and water for their survival. She had never planned that her children would grow up uneducated. She was downright discouraged by their living conditions, the lack of trees, shortage of water and the everlasting view of nothing and more of nothing across the plains.

George finally gave up about 1848-49 and took his family east from the Iowa territory to a thriving community at Madison, Dane County, WI. Two years later the Olins moved again to Marquette County, WI, settling on what was then known as the Menomonie Indian Reservation, unsettled and unsurveyed. Still not satisfied after his defeat in Iowa, George once again, in 1855, moved his family to Eau Claire in Chippewa County, WI.

David Wyman, brother-in-law to George Olin, after marrying Lucinda Olin back in Delaware County, NY, was the second settler to arrive in Eau Claire, 1854. It was Wyman who encouraged George to establish his family permanently there. George purchased 300 acres of choice farming land from the United States Government in 1856 to end his nomadic journey. Trees for lumber were abundant. Sawmills were opening weekly. George made his family happy by building a large, two-story, frame house suitable for their enjoyment where friends and relatives could be entertained. Mary was jubilant to renew social living with a church and school. The children resumed their education after leaving Iowa.

George and his brother-in-law, David Wyman, witnessed the first

wedding held in Eau Claire on New Year's Day, 1857. Since no preacher or civil officer had come into the area to perform or record the beginnings of vital statistics, the marriageable couple was asked by their peers to sign a written contract agreeing to "Love, Honor, and Obey Until Death." The signing of the document was duly witnessed by their neighbors. The marriage contract was considered legal and binding, making the marriage honorable to all, and particularly, they believed, in the eyes of God.

In the fall of 1857, a one-room schoolhouse was erected on the road to Sparta about three miles below the growing village of Eau Claire, in what was already known in the OLIN-BEBEE neighborhood. Dozens of Olin children attended this school and at least two came back to teach. Also in 1857, a ferry was put into operation across the Chippewa River connecting East and West Eau Claire.

Earlier, in 1856, a special election was held to form a government that would serve until formal elections for both the County of Eau Claire and the Town of Eau Claire. George Olin was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, serving for several years. The first trial for murder, held in 1858, proved to be interesting, inviting hours of discussion over the verdict. The story of the trial, according to George Olin:

> "Two German men, Charles Naither and Andrew Seitz, lived together over a general store. Seitz upbraided Naither for neglecting to wash dishes after eating his supper. An altercation ensued and Naither was thrown downstairs. Naither went and purchased a knife and returned to the rooms Seitz and he occupied....Another war of words ensued, and Naither was again ejected from the room. The parties clinched over the threshold of the door and in an instant, Naither plunged his knife into the abdomen of Seitz. He died from the wound two weeks later. The trial took place at the June term of the Circuit Court....The Jury was unable to agree upon a verdict and was discharged. On the second trial the prisoner was found guilty of third degree manslaughter and sentenced to four years and twenty days with hard labor....Governor Randall pardoned him two years later."

The land in the Wisconsin counties of Eau Clair, Chippewa, and Dunn was relatively level, having a few uneven hills and glens. It was considered to be excellent timber country with both soft and hard

woods. Scattered throughout the timber were acres of oak openings and small prairies that provided natural clearings for farms. Tangles of brush and willows grew along the banks of the rivers and small streams. The small streams became important waterways for rafts controlled by men with poles, because shipping goods by raft was faster and cheaper than by wagon. The Olins then and later were recognized as farmers, whether they raised grain, hops, corn, apples, or dairy products.

In 1858, the first of the European immigrants appeared from Norway and Germany, followed by those from Sweden and Denmark. The Scandinavians, for the most part, were farmers who preferred dairy farming. Their contribution to the dairy industry in Wisconsin enabled that state to claim first place in dairy production in the Union. The Olins were also a part of Wisconsin's success. the German immigrants preferred to work for wages and were hired by the month by timber and lumber harvesters. It appears that the OLIN families in the Eau Claire area had very little interest in working for wages in this competitive, hazardous occupation.

Tax assessments for the Town of Eau Claire were first established in 1857 at $3.125 per acre with no mention of any buildings. The actual tax rate is missing, but George Olin's 300 acres were valued at just under $1000 in 1857.

George E. Olin preferred the life of a teamster to the life of a full-time farmer. He was fortunate to obtain and keep a contract to haul freight by wagon over the turnpike between Sparta and Eau Claire. Competition became fierce as more and more teamsters crowded the pike when the railroad reached Sparta from the east.

George and Mary (Turner) Olin's children were: John Turner Olin, born 1834 and married Elvira E. Holsted; unnamed daughter born 1836 and died ca 1841 (per US Census 1840); Silas Milton Olin, born 1839 and married Betsy Flynn; Orrin O. Olin, born ca 1840; Wyman D. Olin, born 1842; and Mary E. Olin, born ca 1844 and married George W. Riley. All six children were born in Davenport, Delaware County, NY. Refer to chapters in Part IX.

Chapter 31

Son, Calvin Olin, Follows Brother, George, to Wisconsin

Reuben and Hannah (Nichols) Olin/Olden's youngest son, Calvin Olin, born 1817, abided with his older brother, George's, decisions during his "growing up" years. The five-year difference in their ages prompted a special bond of protection on George's part and idolatry on Calvin's part. The required years of schooling in Windham County flew by swiftly for Calvin although not very effectively. Calvin did manage to acquire fair penmanship but that eroded over the years. Entries in his family bible reflect his struggles in writing. Nevertheless, Calvin made his mark or contribution to the growth of the United States.

His brother, George, had rented a farm in the Charlotte River Valley near Davenport, Delaware County, NY in 1832. Calvin made his first visit to the farm in 1835 when he was 18 years old and when George and Mary's first child, John Turner Olin, was just six months old. His visits were annual events occasionally accompanied by his sister, Lucinda. They took overland stages from Guilford to New York State continuing on to Oneonta on the Susquehanna River in Otsego County. At first his brother met them in Oneonta and took them to his farm by horse and wagon. Lucinda began staying to help George and Mary for months at a time, so Calvin traveled to Oneonta alone and rented a horse and perhaps a buggy to finish his trip.

Calvin's oldest brother, John, who had married Ruth Culver and moved to a farm he purchased at North Creek, Town of Johnsburg, Warren County, NY, decided to move again, to Delaware County, and rented a farm in Franklin. Calvin made more frequent trips to visit both of his brothers and enjoy the antics of his nephews and nieces.

Back home in Guilford, Calvin's father, Reuben, normally a "happy-go-lucky" fellow was becoming more and more lonesome, often talking aloud to himself. Hannah, his wife, had died a few years earlier and all his children had left home except for Calvin and Lucinda. In an effort to entice Calvin to remain in Guilford, VT, and possibly as an inducement to encourage George to return to Guilford, Reuben Olin

deeded the south half of the OLIN Farm in the Town of Guilford to the two sons. It totaled 75 acres plus the small house that Joseph, his brother, had built. The year was 1841, but Calvin and George elected to stay, at least for awhile, in Delaware County, NY. They did return home to sell the 75 acres to Job Stafford.

George added his portion of the sale to his secret fund reserved to finance his family's trip to the west where he would find land to his liking. He continued to work his rented farm in the Charlotte River Valley.

Calvin invested his portion of the sale in two adjacent lots totaling 38 acres costing $300 about one-half mile above his brother's farm. The house and a barn were in good repair. By mutual agreement, his sister, Lucinda, moved in with him to cook and keep his home orderly. The next year Calvin bought 50 more acres for $250 down-river from his brother.

In his travels back and forth to Oneonta for supplies and recreation, Calvin made it a habit to eat in the dining room of William Angel's Oneonta House on the corner of Main and Chestnut Streets. He became infatuated with one of the waitresses, Ann Cook, whom he married, 15 January 1845, in her parents' home in Oneonta, Otsego County, NY.

Delaware County, NY provided the launching point for Reuben Olin's children's paths to the western lands. George had established himself there in 1832, married Mary Turner, and had five children before migrating west for Wisconsin in 1845. Calvin, as a landowner, stayed about six years, 1841-1846, in Davenport before moving to northern New York, northeast Connecticut, and eventually leaving for Wisconsin in 1857. Lucinda shared a few years with her brothers in Davenport and left to join her brother, George, in Wisconsin about 1849 where she met David Wyman. These two brothers and their sister lived in Wisconsin within walking distance from each other in an area known as "The OLIN Settlement." It represents a kinfolk closeness of necessity when the rest of the family remained behind in the East. Their oldest brother, John, moved into Delaware County about 1836 and moved out in 1840 but not West; he went to Pennsylvania.

Their father, Reuben, suffering from loneliness, sold the rest of his farm in Guilford in 1843. Although his death remains a mystery, it is conceivable that he loaded his personal treasures into a buggy and headed for Delaware County, hoping to stay with one of his children.

He never made it. According to family tradition he met with an accident and drowned.

Calvin and Ann (Cook) Olin's first child, a son, Manum C. Olin, was born 24 February 1846 in Davenport, Delaware County, NY. That summer Calvin took his family to northern New York to Luzern, Warren County, where he worked as a laborer skinning bark from hemlock logs for a large leather tanning operation. A second child, Vesta A. Olin was born there in 1847. Calvin moved again, perhaps with the tanning business, a little farther north to Warrensburg where another child, Wesley Farmer Olin, was born in 1849. Calvin, Ann, and their three children relocated in Staffordsville, Tolland County, CT where three more children: Ella Ann, Farmer Wesley, and Forest Utley were born, 1851, 1853, and 1855, respectively.

Two tragic events occurred in Staffordsville. Three-year-old Wesley Farmer was scalded with hot water spilled from a pot on the stove and died in his Aunt Clarisa's arms. Clarisa was a younger sister of Ann Cook, Calvin's wife, who often visited the OLIN Family. Four months after the child's death, Ann gave birth to another son, naming him in reverse, Farmer Wesley Olin. Ann Cook Olin died in February, 1856 in Staffordsville.

Calvin Olin and his second wife, Clarisa Cook, a younger sister of his first wife, Ann Cook.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Calvin quickly recovered from the loss of his devoted wife, recognizing the fact that his five children ranging in ages from one to ten needed a mother. He still felt wronged by Ann's refusal to go west when his brother and sister left and her insistence on staying within reasonable distance to her parents. He had honored her request but her death now freed him of this obligation. Clarisa Cook had offered to help Calvin while he was organizing his life. He asked Clarisa to become his wife and mother to his children and also agree to move out West. Clarisa agreed and they married at her parents' home in Oneonta, Otsego County, NY in September 1857. The OLIN Family left immediately by train for Sparta, WI, where his brother, George, met them and conveyed them to his house in Eau Claire.

Manum Charles Olin, first child of Calvin's nine children, born 24 February 1846, Town of Davenport, Delaware County, NY, died 12 June 1912, Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, WI.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha O. Johnson

Except for the millions of black flies and mosquitoes that produced aggravated, often bleeding itches, the deep rich soil and abundance of water and trees on the prairies of Wisconsin awed the migrants. Visions of large farms producing products for the eastern markets flooded through Calvin's mind. He soon found a ready-made farm in Ludington Township, Eau Claire County, WI that his family appreciated. Wheat became the major crop in the early days of

Wisconsin farming. Calvin took his harvested grain to the docks in Eau Claire where it was loaded on barges that floated down the Chippewa River and on down the Mississippi River to the seaports in New Orleans. The introduction of railroads boosted the production and sale of wheat by making it easy to transport the grain directly over land to the ports in Milwaukee, WI. In 1856 the steamer *Dean Richmond* carried Milwaukee's first European consignment of grain directly to Liverpool, England.

Vesta Olin Converse, born 15 September 1847 in Luzerne, Warren County, New York was the first daughter born in Calvin's marriage.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Competition for survival on the early farms in the northwest frontier was fierce. The potato famine of 1845 in Ireland forced thousands of Irish families to migrate into the farming communities of Wisconsin. Three years later, thousands of German Families came into the midwest after the unsuccessful rebellion against the German Monarchy. Shortly after the War between the States, hundreds of Swiss families arrived and are credited with turning Wisconsin into the top dairy state in the nation. Still later, hundreds of Scandinavian families migrated into Wisconsin and into farming communities beyond. Calvin and his neighbors observed a continual stream of families on foot, in wagons, on horseback, and on trains seeking the pre-emption lands of the prairies.

Ella Ann Olin Lane, born 1 April 1851 in Staffordsville, Tolland County, CT was the second of Calvin Olin's two daughters.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Calvin, with Clarisa (Cook) Olin, had three additional children born in Eau Claire, WI: Tolland George, born 1858; George Wyman, born 1861; and U. S. Grant, born 1864, all in the Town of Ludington. The OLIN Farm was located 18 miles east of Eau Claire on well-drained land between Beaver and Hay Creeks. The David and Lucinda Wyman farm was south of Eau Claire, as was his brother, George's, farm. Another family, the Nathan Putman Turner family also lived nearby on Old Stage Road. A Turner daughter, Martha A., married Manum C. Olin, the oldest son of Calvin Olin, in 1875.

Back in Delaware County, NY, the Turner family were friends and neighbors of the George and Calvin OLIN families. Nathan's sister, Mary E. Turner, married George Olin. The Turner family resided in the Town of Kortright where Nathan was born, 1820. He was united in marriage to Charlotte Delilah Dibble of Kortright and established their residence on a farm in the Town of Meredith, the next town. The land on his farm proved to be unsuitable for farming of any kind; however, water flowed "year-round" in Kortright Creek on his farm, a quarter mile north of East Meredith. Nathan constructed a wooden dam in the creek to divert water to power a saw and shingle mill that provided his family a good living for 20 years.

Nathan Turner's family home in East Meredith, Delaware County, NY prior to the move to Eau Claire, WI, 1865.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

At the end of the Civil War in 1865, Nathan Turner sold his farm and mills in Delaware County, NY and took his family by train to the land of promises, Eau Claire County Wisconsin. They bought a farm at "Devil's Elbow" on Old Sparta Stage Road, seven miles south of Eau Claire in the Town of Washington, just below where his sister and the Olins lived. His was a progressive farm, including a shingle mill, hop yards, small out-buildings, but a small, poorly constructed house, hardly suitable for his large family. Nathan built a new two-story house with a one-story annex that served as the kitchen, pantry, and woodshed.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Charlotte Delilah Dibble Turner and Nathan Putman Turner in their home, Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin, ca 1890.

Nathan and Charlotte Turner were kind-hearted, affectionate, genial, always having a pleasant word for everyone. They were happiest when young people gathered at their house for a good time. Recognizing the need for entertainment for his growing children and the Irish and German workers of his mill and hop yards, Nathan constructed a second floor to the north end of his house and called it their dance hall. The Turners popularity grew as they hosted regular Saturday night dances and opened their doors for weddings, anniversaries, and other gatherings. Nathan built a large enclosed closet next to the small bandstand, enabling the musicians to store their instruments rather than carrying them to and from the Turner house.

Charlotte, Nathan's wife, had beautiful red hair, the envy of her peers. She passed the red genes into the OLIN family when her daughter, Martha A., also blessed with the coveted red hair, married Manum C. Olin. Nathan and Charlotte Turner celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1895. He died in 1902 at age 82 in the Town of Washington and Charlotte died in 1911 at age 88 in the home of a daughter, Ida Robbins, in the Town of Washington and was buried beside her husband.

Calvin Olin recorded his two marriages, the birth of nine children and the deaths of a child and his first wife in his own family Bible. Strangely enough, the only records found for this family were for two of his sons, Manum C. Olin and Wesley Turner Olin. Wesley married Annie Ward in 1880 at Eau Claire and resided in the Town of Seymore between Eau Claire and his father's "Sugartown" farm in the Town of Ludington.

CALVIN OLIN'S SON, MANUM C. OLIN

The history of Calvin OLIN's family is limited to his one son, Manum C. Olin, and his descendants. Manum ran away from home when he was 12 years old and lived with his Uncle George.

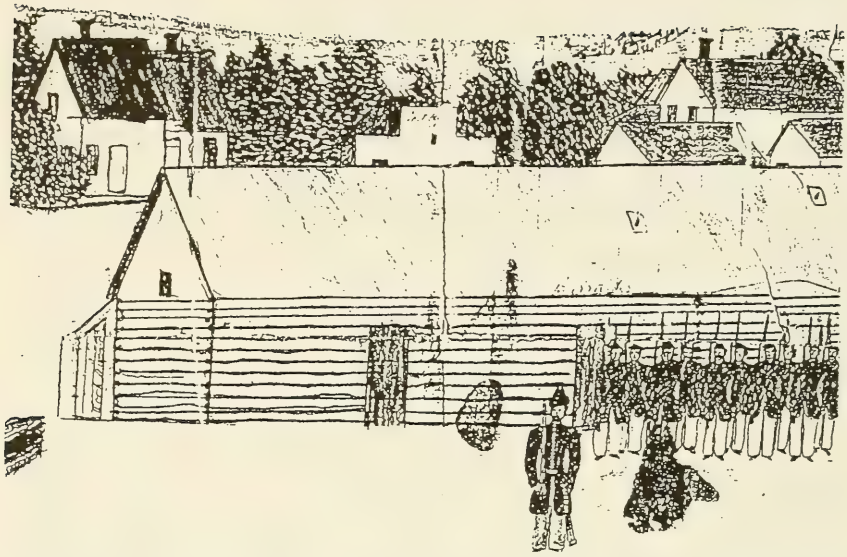
Wisconsin joined the United States as the 30th State in 1848, nine years before Calvin Olin's arrival in Wisconsin. By 1850, the population exceeded 305,000. The majority of Wisconsinites were opposed to slavery in their own state and voiced strong opinions against any new state being formed from territories and admitted as a slave state. At the height of war fever between the states, Wisconsin voted for Abraham Lincoln for President and supported his cause by sending

thousands of young men to serve in the Union Army. Manum C. Olin, age 19, enlisted as a private in Company G 48th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry on 27th of February 1865, two months before the war ceased. Manum survived the war and the peace-time rigors of Army life, serving for only one year. The 48th Regiment was sent to the State of Kansas to perform guard and provost duties and building bridges. They were headquartered in Fort Scott and often marched 300 miles to perform a task or calm restless natives or settlers.

During the next five years, Manum helped his father, but he more often was on the road traveling around the great wide open country of the far western states, as a photographer. His family looked forward to each time he returned just to listen to his travel tales. Then, his restlessness subsided, he went to work for Nathan Turner until his marriage in 1875 to Nathan's daughter, Martha A. Turner. She inherited her mother's red hair and the freckled complexion that went with it. She wore wide-brimmed hats to hide from the sun. She applied a concoction of cucumber juice and lanolin oil during the summer months. Just when she thought the freckles were disappearing, the cucumber season was over. Martha Turner attended a boarding school in downtown Eau Claire. Her special bed at home, a cherry-red, spindle couch with a trundle bed beneath it came from England to America on a sailing ship.

Manum and Martha lived with her parents in their home where Martha presented Manum with two healthy sons: Bolivar Wesley, born 1876; and Stanley Putman, born 1878. In 1883, Manum's Aunt Lucinda and Uncle David Wyman decided to sell their farm to move into the City of Eau Claire. Manum and Martha Olin left the Turner house and bought the Wyman homestead. Manum was involved with civic and political duties in the Town of Washington and served as the Town Treasurer for many years.

On one occasion when Manum was the Town Treasurer, an old German farmer came to his house to pay his taxes. He walked around Manum's round dining room table, shaking his head, and stated that he had never seen a round table before.



While stationed in Fort Scott, Kansas, 1865, Manum C. Olin made this ink drawing of his Company standing for muster. He labeled the long building "Barracks", the dark bent configuration on the left "Breast Works" and the odd looking building behind the barracks "Post Office." In another letter sent home, he told about a 300-mile march to western Kansas when they were expected to march in order. But the cold, hungry, and tired soldiers fell out and shot a buffalo for fresh meat. When the buffalo was down one of the men dashed up and grabbed it by the horns. The animal was not dead and gave the man a good toss into the air.

—Photos Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson—

Martha A. Turner Olin, wife of Manum C. Olin, and their two sons. Stanley Putman Olin, the younger of the two is standing while Bolivar sits next to his mother, ca 1885.

The German farmer placed silver dollars, one at a time, along the table edge until he had laid down the amount of his taxes. The real property tax was not complicated as shown for 1888:

Olin, Mrs. George	Description & Location	20 acres	$275
Olin, Silas Milton	Description & Location	40 acres	$550
Olin, John Turner	Description & Location	40 acres	$550
Olin, Manum C.	Description & Location	40 acres	$250

It appears that Manum had his own tax situation under control. However, the 1888 Personal Property Assessment Roll for the Town of Washington was in more detail and did not appear to miss much.

	Horses	Value	Cattle	Value	Swine	Sheep
Olin, Silas Milton	4	$225	12	$160	5 $10	
Olin, John Turner	2	$130	10	$106	1 $ 3	
Olin, Manum C.	2	$140	12	$187	2 $ 2	2 $3

	Sleighs	Wagons	Carriages	Watches	Organ
Olin, Silas Milton		3 $23			
Olin, John Turner		3 $20		1 $8	
Olin, Manum C.		3 $20			1 $5

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Many hours were spent on the Wyman/Olin front porch. Manum is reading a newspaper while Martha, in white, entertains her Turner relatives. The window reflects their barn from across the Sparta Stagecoach Road.

After a hard-day working over tax problems, Manum would relax in his Morris recliner and read about the latest world and local events in the *Eau Claire Press*. His wife had other ideas about relaxing, which could be shared by the whole family. She talked Manum into buying a small piece of land with a shack on Lowes Creek. This became the Olin summer retreat for many years. Martha made a table from pine boards and had Manum set up a small stove with a flat top so she could cook and have some heat on colder days. She resurrected some old chairs her father had brought from New York State. She, her sons, and their cousins would play by the hour in the creek trying to make a leaky dam hold back more water for a good swim. When they tired of that effort, they waded up stream tipping over stones to look for crabs or leeches for fish bait. In years to follow, Martha and Manum's grandchildren shared in the same relaxing routine. Manum considered scything of the wild grass and weeds around the camp more than relaxing, however.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Grandma's Wigwam, the OLIN Family summer retreat started by Manum and Martha Olin in 1885 provided at least two more generations of Olins a place to relax. Martha called the site on Lowes Creek "Hiawatha" and the shanty "The Wigwarm." Martha, shown above delighted in sharing enthusiastic play in the creek.

Bolivar W. Olin, the first son of Manum and Martha Olin, was 27 years old when he married Julia Coffin. She was a boarder in his parents' house and a school teacher, first at the Devil's Elbow School and later at the Robbins School, both one-room schools. Julia's parents were Charles F. and Margaret (Bean) Coffin of "Shawtown" in Eau

Claire City. Her grandfather was a noted judge for many years in Durand, Pepin County, southwest of Eau Claire.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

The beautiful daughters of Charles and Margaret Coffin in "Shawtown," Eau Claire, WI. Julia Coffin, the oldest, 16 years old, is sitting on the porch rail. She taught school eight years before her marriage to Bolivar Wesley Olin in 1903.

In 1914, Bolivar Olin purchased a farm in the Town of Pleasant Valley about ten miles south of Eau Claire which he sold in 1929. Bolivar and Julia had six children of whom five survived infancy, two sons and three daughters. Only one of the daughters was blessed with the Turner Family red hair, Margaret Beatrice. Her sister, Martha W., was fortunate in her later years to possess an antique pin that has a tiny tress of red hair taken from her great-grandmother, her grandmother, and her sister all twined together under glass.

Bolivar and Julia (Coffin) Olin's oldest child was Alden Meredith Olin who married Lena Flath in 1928 at Driscoll, Burleight County, ND. Alden had traveled west to seek his fortune and landed a job working for a blacksmith in Driscoll, ND. Two years after his marriage to Lena Flath, Alden was able to purchase the blacksmith shop and business. Forty-two years later in 1972, he retired to enjoy his remaining years. He died in 1982 at Driscoll, ND.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Bolivar W. and Julia Coffin Olin proudly pose with their children in 1909. Children — Left to Right: Margaret Beatrice; Winifred Lorraine; Alden Meredith; and Martha Winiogene. The Olins had two more children: Una Jean, who died an infant; and Marvin Wallace.

Alden M. and Lena (Flath) Olin had five daughters and one son. Violet, married Alex Siebel and lived in Sterling, ND; Gertrude married _____ Linden and lived in Kansas City, MO; Muriel married Francis Bauer and lived in Driscoll, ND; Beatrice married Virgil Newland and lived in Minot, ND; and Adele married _____ Murray and lived in Bismark, ND. Their only son, Don, lived in Robinson, ND.

Alden, Meredith Olin, the oldest child of Bolivar and Julia Olin, with his wife, Lena Flath Olin, and their five daughters. Front — Left to Right: Violet; Gertrude,; Muriel; and Beatrice. Alden is holding little Adele "Molly," ca 1935.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Bolivar and Julia Olin's second child was Margaret Beatrice Olin who married Russell Steiwer and had no issue. Their third child, Winifred Lorraine Olin, married Cecil B. Price, 1929. They made their home in Portland, Oregon and had two sons: Wesley Keith Price, born 1939, married Diane Gillies in 1958, and made their home in Bend, OR. He was in the banking business and had two daughters from his first marriage. Lori Margaret Price, born 1959 in Eugene, OR, married Robert D. Epperson, 1982 and they had four children: Matthew J. Epperson, born 1983 in Portland, OR; Nicholas M. Epperson, born 1986 in Kent, WA; Jillian L. Epperson, born 1990 in Kent, WA; and Emily Claire Epperson, born 1993 in Kent, WA.

Wesley K. and Diane Price's second daughter, Danelle Marie, born 1962 in Portland, OR married David Ralston in 1990 and they have two children: Chelsea M. Price, born 1984 and Taylor R. Ralston, born 1993. Wesley K. Price married a second time to Judith K. Selfors in 1975. Judith was born 1948 in Bend, OR. They had one child, Eric Wesley Price, born 1979 in Bend, OR.

Winifred L. Olin and Cecil B. Price's other son was Marvin James Price, born 1943 in Portland, OR who married Carla I. Lentfer in 1964 and Marilyn Watkins in 1992, with no children from either marriage. Marvin J. Price was instrumental in the downtown business Portland, OR "Pardue Restoration."

The three daughters of Bolivar W. and Julia Coffin Olin are ready for their night out, 1985, Portland, OR. Left to right: Margaret Beatrice Olin Steiwer, Winifred Lorraine Olin Price; and Martha Winogene Olin Johnson.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Winifred Lorraine Olin and her husband, Cecil B. Price, ca 1950.

—Photos Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson—

The other son of Bolivar and Julia (Coffin) Olin was Marvin Wallace Olin, born 1911 in the City of Eau Claire, WI. He is reported to have married and was residing in Salem, OR.

Marvin Wallace Olin, the youngest of Bolivar and Julia Olin's children, ca 1930. His three sisters were born in the years between their two brothers.

Martha Winogene Olin was the youngest daughter of Bolivar and Julia Olin, born 1908. She remembers her mother holding her over her baby sister's tiny coffin so she could see "the little Dolly." She remembers her grandfather bouncing her on his knees while singing popular Civil War songs. She also remembers her grandfather's funeral in 1912. And, she recalls the day that her father left Eau Claire and took his family of five children 12 miles south to a farm in the Town of Pleasant Valley. When WWI started in 1914, her father was working for Phoenix Manufacturing Company, too old to serve in the war and

concerned about supporting his family. Their farm of 160 acres supported a small dairy, excellent grain crops, and all the food necessary for a growing family. Bolivar took advantage of the free informational farming booklets offered by the State College in Madison, WI. Bolivar and Julia left Wisconsin in 1946 right after WWII and decided to live in Portland, OR. He died there in a 1960 and Julia in 1974.

Martha W. Olin received a good education, earning a diploma enabling her to teach school. She often visited a girlfriend, Carol Johnson, in Colfax, WI, stayed overnight. Several neighborhood boys would make it a point to visit the Johnson boys who happened to have a good looking school teacher in their midst. When Martha was introduced to a Norwegian youth, he tried to sound out her surname "OLIN," and then remarked, "You can't say 'OLIN' in Norwegian!" Regardless, Martha ended up marrying Carol's brother, Deane Johnson.

Deane and Martha Olin Johnson, ca 1941. Deane was leaving for Milwaukee where he worked as an aeronautics welder at a WW II defense plant.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Martha Olin and Deane Johnson eloped and, were married by prearrangement by a Methodist minister in Redway, Goodhue County, Minnesota on the 2nd of October 1937. The Great Depression drained families of what little resources they had. The considerate couple decided to elope to avoid a situation where gifts were expected.

Deane Johnson's father, Bert Johnson, was one of ten children who accompanied his parents via covered wagon from Illinois to Iowa shortly after the Civil War. When Bert started a family of his own he found he could not make a living in Iowa. Consequently, in 1917, he joined six other families going by rail to the Lake Rice area, Barron County, north of Eau Claire, WI.

Deane enlisted in the Marine Corps, 1930, and after discharge in

1934 found it difficult to find employment. Late in the summer, he joined with other young men from Colfax, WI to head out west to the apple orchards in Washington, only to find that they had to compete with hundreds of others just to pick apples. Deane was fortunate to find John Boyd Olin's orchard where he not only picked apples but stayed on to sort and pack them for shipment. Deane returned to Wisconsin and was working for his brother's "Sunlight" Dairy in Mondovi when he married Martha Olin. During World War II, Deane became proficient in welding and, because of his expertise, was "frozen" to that particular assignment in support of government war contracts.

In 1972, Deane Johnson retired from Kleist Concrete. He purchased 40 acres with a house, three-and-half miles from downtown Eau Claire. It was an ideal location for the Johnsons who were active community volunteers. Martha retired at the end of 1973 from her job as division manager for the Boys' Department in Sears Roebuck, in Eau Claire. In 1977, the Johnsons sold their small place and moved back to Eau Claire because of Deane's failing health. He died in 1984.

Two years after her husband's death, Martha, 78 years old, took driving lessons, passed her first test and received her license to drive their automobile that had been garaged for many years. She continues to be active in her church, Eastern Star, Shrine Hospital Auxilliary, two museums, Art Council, and faithfully attends local Theater Guild and Symphony performances. Today, at age 85, Martha is the star attraction as she models for the Eastern Star Style Show.

Manum and Martha (Turner) Olin's second son, Stanley Putman Olin, was two years younger than his brother, Bolivar, but by his early teens he was the taller one. The two boys were very close and confided in their mother rather than their father. Both were well disciplined men; Bolivar with a balding head, and Stanley with a full head of dark hair. Stanley married Helen Davidson, 1910, in Couer DeLaine, Washington. In 1902, 24-year-old Stanley, accompanied his 56-year-old father on a trip west to Roseberg, Oregon, 200 miles south of Portland. Several other Eau Claire men took the same trip to look at and possibly file claims for 160 acres of uncut timber. Possibly, Stanley made a claim. He married a girl from the west and has always lived in the Washington, Oregon area ever since.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Stanley Putman Olin and his bride, Helen Davidson, on their Wedding Day, 15 June 1910 at Couer DeLaine, Washington.

Stanley became interested in his family ancestry and began to write to relatives in the east. He wrote to Clayton P. Olin in Lisbon, NH in 1908. Clayton was a great-grandson of Reuben Olin of Guilford, VT, and Stanley was also. Letters to Clayton have not surfaced, but a nine-page letter from Clayton to Stanley was saved. Clayton, in 1908, was asking the same questions about the Olins in Eau Claire (George, Calvin and Lucinda) that this author has been researching. Stanley's response, if saved, would resolve many unresolved issues today.

Stanley Putman Olin, a carpenter by trade, joined the "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War," an organization that honored Union Veterans and the history and significance of the Civil War. Stanley worked his way "through the chairs," and in 1956, was elected one of three members on the Council of Administration for the states of Oregon and Washington. One of his file letters, 1956, lists 17 Olins who served from Wisconsin during the Civil War. Stanley's father, Manum C. Olin, is listed.

—Photo Courtesy of Martha Olin Johnson

Robbin's Schoolhouse in 1885, situated on the Wyman/OLIN Homestead. Bolivar Olin stands on the far left with his brother, Stanley Olin. The schoolhouse was later faced with brick from a local brickyard and, still later, wood siding applied before it was torn down. Julia Coffin Olin taught school here. The Oak Grove Cemetery is located in the open field behind the school and was a part of the Wyman/OLIN Homestead.

This concludes the history of Calvin, his two marriages and his known descendants. In 1877, Calvin deeded 40 acres to his son, Tolland G. Olin and 120 acres to his brother, George Olin. The land was taken from his farm in the Town of Ludington, Eau Claire County, WI. Calvin was 60 years old in 1877, and the land transactions are the last records of his life. Perhaps, Calvin enjoyed his aging years by working his "sugar bush" in the spring much as his father, Reuben, and grandfather, Joseph OLIN/Olden did in Windham County, VT.

CHART - 12 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
Reuben OLIN (4)
Hannah Nichols

Children (5)

1 - John OLIN
Ruth Culver

2 - Rachel OLIN

3 - Nancy OLIN
Arad Shearer

4 - Charles OLIN
Betsey Mann

5 - Ruth OLIN

6 - George E. OLIN
Mary E. Turner

7 - Sally OLIN
(Continue on Chart - 13)

(6)

Jane OLIN
Hyde OLIN
Mariah Nicholas
Earl OLIN
Abigail T. Carpenter
Irene OLIN
Asahel A. Lowe
Omer/Omar OLIN
Althea S. Bloxham
(see Chart - 17)

Susane SHEARER
Merwin SHEARER
Mary B. SHEARER
Sara C. SHEARER
Parthenia SHEARER
Willie SHEARER
James SHEARER

Raymond OLIN
Esther OLIN
Charles W. OLIN
John F. OLIN
Orpha E. Alexander
Thomas C. OLIN
Ceylon OLIN

John Turner OLIN
Elvira E. Holsted
(see Chart - 15)
Silas Milton OLIN
Betsey Flynn
(see Chart - 14)
Orrin O. OLIN
Wyman D. OLIN
Mary E. OLIN
George W. Riley

(7)

Hattie M. OLIN
Crosby J. Moffatt
Adelia OLIN
Charles Lewis
Orva Lee OLIN
1 - Ida Corey
2 - Nettie Estabrook
Edna J. OLIN
Luther Burdick

John Franklin LOWE
May Spangenberg
Edward A. LOWE
Alice B. Welton
Willie A. LOWE
Charles LOWE
Mary C. Welton
Rose Lavina LOWE
1 - John Stockwell
Leon A. LOWE
1 - Ethel L. Brown
2 - Nellie Clearwater

Clayton P. OLIN
Susie Mace
Myrtle P. OLIN
William H. Stephens, Jr.

(8)

Charles B. MOFFATT
Pauline Cobb
Maude MOFFATT
Charles H. Hakes
William H. MOFFATT
Ina Goodspeed

Ruth Mae OLIN
Norman C. Fox
Cleland Roy STEPHENS
Mary E. Sullivan

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

(Continued from Chart - 12)

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
Reuben OLIN (4)
Hannah Nichols

Children (5)

7 - Sally OLIN
John Dillworth

- Newton DILLWORTH
- Mary DILLWORTH
  George Melville
- Jane DILLWORTH
  1- _____ Davis
  2 - James Johnson

8 - Calvin OLIN
1 - Ann Cook

- Manum C. OLIN
  Martha A. Turner
  - Bolivar W. OLIN
    Julia Coffin
    - Alden Meredith OLIN
      Lena Flath
      - Violet OLIN
        Alex Siebel
      - Gertrude OLIN
        _____ Linden
      - Muriel OLIN
        Francis Bauer
      - Beatrice OLIN
        Virgil Newland
      - Adele OLIN
        _____ Murray
      - Don OLIN
      - Wesley Keith PRICE
        1 - Diane Gillies
        2 - Judith K. Selfors
        - Eric Wesley PRICE
      - Marvin James PRICE
        1 - Carla I. Lentfer
        2 - Marylin Watkins
        - Matthew J. EPPERSON
        - Nicholas M. EPPERSON
        - Jillian L. EPPERSON
        - Emily Claire EPPERSON
    - Margaret Beatrice OLIN
      Russell Steiwer
    - Winifred Lorraine OLIN
      Cecil B. Price
      - Lori Margaret PRICE
        Robert D. Epperson
      - Danelli Marie PRICE
        David Ralston
        - Chelsea Marie PRICE
        - Taylor Ray RALSTON
    - Martha Winogene OLIN
      Deane Johnson
    - Una Jean OLIN
    - Marvin Wallace OLIN
  - Stanley Putman OLIN
    Helen Davidson
- Vesta A. OLIN
  E.A. Converse
  Wesley Farmer OLIN
- Ella Ann OLIN
  _____ Lane
- Farmer Wesley OLIN
  Annie Ward
- Forest Utley OLIN

2 - Clarisa Cook

- Tolland Hope OLIN
- George Wyman OLIN
- U.S. Grant OLIN

9 - Lucinda OLIN
David Wyman

- Milo B. WYMAN
  - Freddie WYMAN
  - John WYMAN
- Asegal D. WYMAN
  Jennie _____
- Robert W. WYMAN
  Mary L. _____
- George E. WAYMAN
  Ella F. _____
  - Eda WAYMAN

(6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11)

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
Reuben OLIN (4)
George OLIN (5)
Mary Turner

(6)

1 - John Turner OLIN
Elvira E. Holsted
(see Chart - 15)

2 - Daughter - unknown name

3 - Silas Milton OLIN
Betsy E. Flynn

4 - Orrin Orson OLIN

5 - Wyman Dillworth OLIN

6 - Mary E. OLIN
George W. Riley

(7)

George Leonard OLIN
Jessie May Jackson

(8)

Harold M. OLIN

Mary Elizabeth OLIN

Marjorie OLIN
Theodore Sands

Abbie OLIN ?

George OLIN ?

(9)

Theodore SANDS, Jr.
Catherine L. Wilson

Bruce Waldemar SANDS
Patricia M. Logan

Gary Olin SANDS
Rita J. Halterman

(10)

Thomas Bruce SANDS
Monica M. Citta

James Patrick SANDS
Lois Jean Keith

Donald LeRoy SANDS
Debrah L. Landon

Charles Theodore SANDS
Judith Ann Getz

Christine Marie SANDS
Daniel T. Moore

Timothy Allen SANDS
Kathy A. Shank

Julia Jo SANDS

Angela Lynn SANDS ?

Laura Jane SANDS ?

Part VIII — Reuben OLIN/OLDEN Bids His Children Farewell

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Notes:

PART IX

George OLIN Family in Wisconsin and Washington

"May their character be read,
Their worth appreciated.
And memories richly cherished
By their children's children forever!"
—David Lee Esq.

Chapter 32

Son, John Turner Olin

The last threat from the Indians around Eau Claire had taken place in early 1850 when the Sioux and the Chippewas, who were at odds with each other, held a peace meeting near Gilbert Creek. They agreed to honor tribal prowess by staging a hunting contest; the first brave to bring in game of consequence would prove that tribe to be superior. A Sioux brave shot an elk. The Chippewa brave faced humiliation for his failure and shot the Sioux, killing him and then fled the country. Expecting reprisal from the Sioux, the entire Chippewa tribe also fled, leaving only an old man and two squaws. They were murdered by the Sioux and then the entire Sioux tribe in turn left for the deep forest to the west.

Nothing more was heard from the Indians until September, 1862, when a great Indian scare surfaced affecting the families living on the west side of the Chippewa River in Eau Claire. John T. Olin, George and Mary's oldest son, age 28, and married for two years:

> "took an active part in allaying the fears of the people, many of whom had left their farms, and in many cases all they possessed of this world's goods, and went to Eau Claire for safety. This

occurred on Sunday as Mr. Olin with a neighbor was setting out to attend church. A man on horseback came up to them and stated that Indians were on the west side of the Chippewa River, killing people and burning everything which came into their way, and that every hunter in the neighborhood was wanted at Eau Claire to help protect the people who were coming there by hundreds. After a minute's consideration he took his rifle, which was a good one, and started for the scene of conflict. On arriving at Eau Claire he found many people, formed in something like a line and armed with clubs, pitchforks and a few guns, who were being drilled in the manual of arms, etc. by an old German soldier. As Mr. Olin approached them a then prominent lawyer (Arthur Ellis) stepped up to him and said: Fall into the ranks and be ready to fight the Indians, who are just across the river. Olin said he did not believe there were any Indians there, and if there were, he preferred to get some powder and lead for his gun. This seemed to bring those who formed the line to their sense of need, so they broke their ranks and went for ammunition. The Indians did not put in an appearance; still the scare was not abated, and a great many remained in the city, taking refuge in the different halls and such places as the village could furnish. Mr. Olin came home, as did most of the neighbors, who did not believe that there were any Indians nearer than Minnesota. Shortly before midnight of this eventful Sunday Mr. Olin was aroused from his sleep by a clatter of horses' feet quickly approaching, and soon a messenger called to him to get up as soon as possible, as a hundred Indian warriors had been seen near the bank of the Chippewa River four miles below Eau Claire. Other messengers had been sent out. The people of the Olin neighborhood gathered at the home of Mr. George Olin until the house was full. Young Olin would not believe any Indians were near, yet preparations were made to fight them on the following day. Guns were put in order and plenty of ammunition prepared. At early dawn Mr. Olin and J. J. Smith started for Eau Claire, followed by about twenty others fully determined to do their part in any difficulty that might arise. On their arrival there they found a large number of men in council. It was finally concluded to call on someone to volunteer to go out and locate the whereabouts of the Indians and to report as soon as

possible. J.T. Olin and J.J. Smith promptly offered to do so. Starting at once, they crossed the river and went directly to the place where it was said the Indians had been seen on the previous evening. No sign of them could be found anywhere. The volunteers now struck across the country to Elk Mound, where it was said so much property had been burned by the red men. Finding everything in its natural condition, they returned to Eau Claire, tired but not disappointed that no Indians had been found. Upon hearing their report the people returned to their homes and that was the last of the famous Indian scare."

At the time of the above "scare," John had just finished building a new house of his own. He was known in the area as a young man whose reasoning and rational thinking was far beyond that expected of a much older man. His education was not limited to the six years he spent in the one-room school in New York. John T. read anything that came his way and he continued to read as he became older. Over the years, he was elected five times to Assessor for the Town of Washington, serving with profit to the Office and a credit to himself. Recognized as being one of the more aggressive and successful farmers in the town, he was also known as an excellent machinist and engineer.

John Turner Olin, born 1834 in Davenport, Delaware County, NY, son of George and Mary Turner Olin. He lived his years in the Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, WI, died 1900. He is buried in the Oak Grove Cemetery.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Haase Fahey

He lived with his parents well beyond his maturity, and helped them build their big house and all the necessary outbuildings. He purchased his first parcel of choice farming land in 1855, and added two more parcels to it until he had 120 acres by the time he married. He spent the five intervening years before his marriage as a hunter and trapper. His knowledge of the surrounding country was second to none. John T. became known as a land hunter, willing to assist immigrants to select the best farm lands available.

On April 20, 1860, John T. Olin married Elvira E. Holsted, daughter of Henry and Lydia M. (Warren) Holsted, natives to New York State. Their marriage resulted in six children: Julia, born ca 1862; Charles F., born 1863; Orrin, born ca 1865; Ella, born ca 1866; John Boyd, born ca 1870; and Cora, born ca 1871. Life around Eau Claire was good for the Olins and Olins were good for the community. John T. appeared to be the focal point for the OLIN Family and in-laws during the years of the Civil War and the troublesome years following. John had two brothers, Orrin O. and Wyman D. who served in the Union Army. He had two brothers-in-law, George and A. H. Holsted serving in the same Wisconsin Calvary Company as his brothers and a nephew, Manum C. Olin, son of his uncle, Calvin, who had recently moved to a nearby farm. Considerable correspondence took place between the men in service and John during the war.

His aunt, Lucinda Wyman, lived nearby and quite possibly another aunt, Sally Dilworth, may have lived close by at the time. Olin Settlement was rightly named. At least four generations were deeply rooted to the Eau Claire area with some descendants still living there today.

Several timber and lumber companies controlled the growth of Eau Claire until the late 1890s. The Mississippi River Logging company absorbed most of the smaller, private, logging operations to become the world's largest producer of lumber through the turn of the century. The estimated log cut of the Chippewa River and it's tributaries for the ten year period, 1881-1891, was 7,646,000,000 feet. By early 1900, the timber or "pinery" was fully harvested allowing dairy farmers and their milk products to establish Wisconsin as number "1".

It was not all peaches and cream for the lumber operators. In 1866, spring rains and melting snows caused severe flooding and ice jams on all the western Wisconsin streams including the Chippewa River. Logging booms and piers and several buildings along the banks were swept down stream. Many thousands of logs were deposited on islands and shores of the Mississippi River. Another more serious flood occurred in the summer of 1870 when the Chippewa River rose 15 feet

above it's banks and deposited over twenty million logs into the Mississippi River.

It was by coincidence that John T. became intellectual friends with James Johnson, owner of one of the largest lumber companies operating north of Eau Claire. Johnson also had a limited education, but enjoyed reading books, newspapers, and attending lectures much like John T. Around 1870, Johnson walked forty miles from Clayton to Hudson on the St. Croix river to catch the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad cars in order to attend a lecture in St. Paul to be given by Henry Ward Beecher, the renowned educator and preacher of the time. The C. M. & S. P. rail line passed through Eau Claire. John T. Olin boarded the same train for the same reason as Johnson: to attend the lecture in St. Paul, Minnesota. John sat down with Johnson and within ten minutes considered themselves inseparable, well versed and enjoyable friends.

John Turner Olin died two months short of 67 years old on December 1, 1900 at Eau Claire, WI. Elvira Elizabeth (Holsted) Olin died the 7th of April, 1922, in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. She was not quite 84 years old.

John Turner and Elvira (Holsted) Olin had six children: three sons and three daughters. They were Julia E. Olin, Charles F. Olin, Orrin Olin, Ella Olin, John Boyd Olin, and Cora E. Olin.

During the dark days of the Civil War, two of Elvira Holsted's brothers: George and A. H. Holsted enlisted in the same Wisconsin Cavalry Company as Orrin O. Olin. A letter from A. H. Holsted to his brother-in-law, John T., dated May 16th 1863, written at Camp New Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee hints of family jealously in the Olin-Wyman-Holsted relationship.

Dear Brother John and Family

Again I seat myself to answer your kind letter this I received yesterday afternoon. Your letter found your acquaintances all well. I am enjoying myself better now and having better health, than any time before in the service. I am now acting Orderly Sergeant; Our Orderly has gone home in furlough for 30 days. I have a tent to myself. So I can keep the Books in order. Every Orderly is allowed one. So you do thus. It makes me a beautiful place to think and read or even write. It is now just noon. I have been to Dinner, and feel much refreshed. It is General Camp Cleaning Day it being Saturday. I can hear the boys Scraping outside now (?). John you wanted to know how Dill gets along. He is doing well, Dill is a good soldier. He is far better than he was last winter. The boys generally like him, I believe.

John you devil, thus I had not said anything about what you

wrote the Captain. I have never heard through him yet that you had wrote to him about this affair. It goes to show me, that he is satisfied, as he acts like old Captain Sherman again. If there is anything in this about Milo and his mother plotting my destruction, I am much surprised. I have always complimented Milo in the highest. Thought him a Gentleman and it is hard for me to think thus of him. Milo knows me well here. But no doubt, he is a little jealous of me. I suppose he hates to recognize my superiority of him, for he may think that I am not deserving above him. His accomplishments may be better than mine, but I am at present superior to him in office, and as such I shall hold myself as long as possible. I almost Know thus he expected to come in an orderly over me, but he is beat out in thus. If he thought so. The orderly has many responsibilities. Thus, a Duty Srgt. does not. He is subject to a call from head-quarters at any moment, has to Call Roll twice a day, report the number present and absent every morning, and in fact has all of the Co. business to do. He has more business than any other officer in the Co. But I will say no more if this. You must have a bouncing boy. You prove to be a man of business. Are you raising Infantry for the war? I should say so. About thus Money matter. John, I wrote to Pa what to do, or to do what he thought best with it. If he let it, I wanted the best of Security for I expect to be home soon, and would want to use it. I have now write you all of the news. There not being much, we are having good and glorious news from Rappohunock. General Hooker is doing the work. This is all. Good-by and write soon This from Dear Brother in the Army. [sic]

A. H. Holsted

The Dill referred to in the above letter is Wyman D. Olin, brother of John T. the "D" or Dill stands for Dilworth. John T's Aunt Sally married a Dilworth. The reference to Milo and his mother means another Aunt of John T., Aunt Lucinda who married David Wyman and had a son, Milo. The bouncing boy mentioned was born to John T. and Elvira, their second son, Charles F., born May 3rd, 1863.

In keeping with the Civil War experiences of Co. L, 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry in which the George OLIN Family and in-laws were active participants it only seems right to relate George W. Holsted's story of actual field happenings. The following is the first paragraphs of his story as printed in the Saturday Afternoon Edition of *The Daily Telegram* published November 4th, 1911, in Eau Claire, WI.

"I enlisted in Eau Claire, December 18, 1861, in Co. L, 2nd Wisconsin Voluntary Cavalry, Captain Sherman in command. We first went into camp on the Fair Grounds at Milwaukee, where we drilled for a short time. Then on to Benton Barracks, St Louis, MO, where we drew our horses; from there by boat to Jefferson City, and thence to Springfield. While enroute my brother and I slept one night in a corn crib. During the night we were startled by the sharp report of a gun, followed by the shrill squeal of a hog, both sounds intensified by the silence. A couple of Dutchmen from Company H had disregarded the strict order not to shoot in camp, with the result that we had fresh pork for breakfast.

From Springfield we went to Helena, Arkansas, and a more sickly place I never saw. A great number of our dear comrades are lying there and I narrowly escaped being one of the number but through the kindness of Mrs. Governor Harvey I was sent to St Louis, thence to Quincey, IL, and from there to Vicksburg, Mississippi, where I rejoined my regiment. After the siege of Vicksburg, I became ill and was sent home on sick furlough. On the day of my arrival home, my brother Albert H. Holsted while riding with a skirmishing party, was fired upon from ambush and received five gunshot wounds, from the effects of which he died three days later. A comrade, George F. Bannister, fell from his horse, as the animal was shot from under him, and sustained a sprained wrist. He feigned unconsciousness and was passed unnoticed. At this time our regiment was camped at Redbone Church, twelve miles south of Vicksburg.

In January, 1864, I rejoined my regiment, and on February 1, I was out with four comrades on a foraging expedition. When we came to the Big Black River, which we expected to ford, we found the banks washed away and utterly impassable for our horses. Espying an old house across the river, we crossed in an old boat, but it proved to be an old deserted plantation.

Further up the river the timber was all afire, but we could see another house about 40 rods away. Some of the boys wanted to go up there but I objected, saying that we were unacquainted with the locality and were a long distance from our horses. "Well," said they, "If you are afraid you needn't go. We are going." I replied: "I may not be as brave as you are, but I will go with you." I fully realized the insecurity of our position. The lurid blaze of the

burning timber made it as light as day. The others were ahead of me and had nearly passed beyond the fire light when as I looked into the darkness I saw moving objects.

I called to the boys to halt and pointed out to them what I had seen. They thought them cattle, but I knew that cattle would be lying down at 10 o'clock at night. We soon found out what kind of cattle they were, as a short distance ahead the road turned directly toward them, and they advanced to meet us shooting on sight. The boys turned and ran directly toward the fire, but my mind was bent upon escaping, so I laid down in a cotton row. I thought the Johnnies would pursue my fleeing comrades and after they had passed, I would run into the darkness and perhaps get away. But as soon as I had concealed myself thus, I saw about 30 horsemen coming in my direction, and I then crawled between the hind wheels of an old wagon that stood close by. All had passed me except two when the one ahead called to the other, "There is a damned Yankee _____ ____ ____ under the wagon. Shoot Him!" He rode up and stuck his gun between the spokes, but his horse jumped ahead, which perhaps saved my life. He then wheeled his horse about, and ordered me to come out. I told him I would and I did.

By this time the rest of the bush-whackers and returned with my companions and their Captain asked who was the first man taken. I said I was and that we belonged to company so and so, under Captain Sherman. This captain knew Captain Sherman and spared our lives but kept us as prisoners." [sic]

George Holsted's story continues, telling of his escapes etc. The point being that the Captain Sherman mentioned, later became the General Sherman, known for his infamous march across the South.

JULIA E. OLIN, FIRST CHILD OF JOHN T. and ELVIRA OLIN

A REMINISCENCE

Of Myself — To Myself — By Myself

In far away Wisconsin, on a February morn
To John and Elvira Olin, a baby girl was born
And those pioneering parents were as happy as could be,

Because the little maiden they began to love was me.
Two grandfathers and a grandmother, over me made such ado,
A half score or more of uncles and aunts showed greate affection too.
(Being the first of my generation I may have been lacking in veneration
But am sure that I absorbed the adulation of the numerous relations.)

There were years of happy schooldays, happy days of teaching too--
Though all days were not June days, Christmas came in December anew.
Spring, summer, autum, winter, brought new duties and new joys.
And I still have many pupils who are ever 'my girls and boys.'
On a rainy April morning a Wisconsin lumberman came
Who had learned to love his calling in his native state of Maine.
He was looking for a schoolma'am, but by some wily trick of fate
There soon was thrust upon him this same schoolma'am for a mate.

On a misty July morning, dawned our happy wedding day.
But by noon the clouds had lifted and the sunshine had full sway.
By my side there is a witness of the ceremony short--
In which we pledged our solemn vows-"Until death do us part."
Anon our farmstead, Hillview, was our home for many a year-
Scene of many joyous labors, where were born two daughters dear.
There we lived with trusted neighbors, close to nature, strong and free,
And the happiest of memories come in dreams of love to me.

On a January morning when the snow lay bleak and deep,
Came our day of greatest sadness, when Llewellyn fell asleep.
All the dear familiar places knew his presence nevermore,
As we bowed in sad submission to the over ruling power.
In this land of sunshine which the fog doth sometime smother,
I have found surcease from turmoil, from worry and from bother,
And you have made me welcome in this dear Madison Club.
Which of all the wheels of fortune, to me is the hub. [sic]

Julia E. Olin Ellis, the first child of John Turner and Elvira E. (Holsted) Olin was the author of these interesting verses.

In her words, "These lines were read March 16, 1937, by my sister, Ella Olin Fraser, on the 16th anniversary of the Founding of the

Madison, Maine Club of Pasadena, California. With the exception of myself, all members are natives of the town of Madison, Maine, or direct descendants of those who were born there. My husband, Llewellyn Ellis, was reared there and I was accepted as a member of the club, possibly because I am (have been) the Secretary-Treasurer of the organization for many years."

Julia was born February, 1862 in the Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin. She was the oldest of six children and the most carefree, happiest child of all. Her spontaneous smile and good nature stayed with her through her life. As soon as Julia finished high school about 1878, she taught school until her marriage to Llewellyn Ellis, a lumberman 15 years older.

Llewellyn was born, 1847, in Madison, Somerset County, Maine, the youngest of nine children of Joshua and Elfrida (Hilto) Ellis. His early days were spent on the rocky New England farm where "the corn was planted with a shotgun among the crevices, and the sheep's noses were fitted with steel points to enable them to crop the scanty verdure springing between the fissures." He left Maine in 1868 to spend two years in Oshkosh, Wisconsin before relocating near Eau Claire as a lumber contractor, operating camps on the Chippewa River and its numerous tributaries. He bought a tract of unimproved farm land in Wheaton, Chippewa County, but did nothing with it until his marriage 3 July 1882 to Julia E. Olin, the school Ma'am. Llewellyn build a beautiful, two-story, frame house on a full-size cellar foundation that was laid with mortared quarry stone. The front had three gabled windows protruding from the roof and neat, serviceable porches added to the front and drive side. From the time of his marriage, he gave less time to the lumber business to favor his farm. He carried on an intelligent system of diversified farming with emphasis on cattle and sheep improvement. His animal exhibits at the Wisconsin Fairs won him respect in the eyes of his competitors.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

"HILLVIEW", home of Llewellyn and Julia Olin Ellis in Wheaton, Chippewa County, Wisconsin, ca 1908.

Julia and Llewellyn's first daughter, Elvira, named after her grandmother, was born in Wheaton, 1884. She married H. E. Craft and moved to Howard, Wisconsin. Their second daughter, Myra, was also born in Wheaton, 1891, and married O. Olson.

Llewellyn Ellis contributed his business expertise to his community by serving as President of the Local Union of the American Society of Equity from the time it was organized in 1904 until his death in 1910. He was also serving as President of the Town-Line Creamery Association. His untimely death resulting from pneumonia was a devastating shock to the community as well as to his family.

After her husband's death, Julia moved away from Wisconsin to be near her sister Ella in southern California. She joined several organizations devoting many hours, gradually seeking peace over her husband's death. Her favorite organization was the Madison Club of Maine, a club that she knew her husband would have liked to have joined.

CHARLES F. OLIN, FIRST SON OF JOHN T. and ELVIRA OLIN

Charles F. Olin, the second child of John Turner and Elvira E. (Holsted) Olin was born on the 3rd of May, 1863 in Eau Claire,

Wisconsin during the middle of the Civil War. His little body shivered from the cool temperatures of early May and goose bumps occasionally appeared on his body throughout the warm summer months. Elvira found it necessary to keep him protected from the drafts and cool temperatures with extra blankets and clothing. Later, during his "growing up years" and into maturity and marriage, Charlie wore long woolen underwear "year-round." To his neighbors, Charlie seemed funny or eccentric but to the OLIN Family, the fastidious Charlie was known as their congenial ambassador.

He married Mary (Mollie) Almeda Harrington, daughter of Anson and Imogene (Woodford) Harrington. Mollie was born the 6th of December 1869 in South County, Iowa. Their marriage produced three and possibly four sons and a daughter: Charles Alton, who preferred to be called Alton, was born 1890; Vern J. was born sometime between 1890 and 1898; Henry Talmadge, who liked his middle name better, born 1899; Hazel Elvira, born 1910; and possibly Forrest, all born in Eau Claire County, Wisconsin.

After their children left home, Charlie and Mollie took to the road traveling around the country visiting the OLIN Family. Charlie often called on Bolivar Olin, a cousin and grandson of Calvin Olin. Calvin was a brother to Charlie's grandfather, George Olin. The OLIN Family treated the visiting couple royally, insisting that they spend days, or even weeks. Charlie was a storyteller who possessed a good knowledge of OLIN History.

He also corresponded with another cousin in New Hampshire, Clayton P. Olin, whose grandfather, Charles, was a brother to both Calvin and George. Clayton was a self-professed genealogist who had become deeply interested in the OLIN Family History. He spent a great deal of time researching the Harrington family, Mollie's maiden name, apparently without the desired results.

On one of Charlie and Mollie's visits in the summer of 1935 to his brother, John Boyd Olin, who had moved to Entiat, Washington, Charlie was wearing his long-sleeved and long-legged long johns; much to the surprise of his niece. John Boyd's youngest daughter Edna was also visiting with her son, Jack. She recalls that Uncle Charlie chided her about her one year old son taking his daytime nap outdoors, summer or winter. Uncle Charlie said, "You are either going to kill that boy or make him real healthy."

Charles F. Olin died in 1943 at age 80 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Mollie died five years later at age 79, also in Eau Claire.

Their son, Charles Alton, married Lillian Patneaude on the 23rd of December, 1916 in Eau Claire. She was born 1893 in Eau Claire, daughter of C. and Theresa (Elchelpp) Patneaude. We know from family correspondence that Alton and Lillian had at least four children and possibly six: Jettie Iona, born 1918, married a Mr. Hayes; Robert L., born 1921; John Charles, born 1923, and married 1946 to Lila Whitney, who was born in 1927. They resided in Racine, Wisconsin, and he died in 1958. A brother, William Cecil, was born and died in 1926; and possibly Clifford and LeRoy, all born in Eau Claire County, Wisconsin. Alton Olin died in 1958 and his wife, Lillian died ca 1981, both in Eau Claire.

Charles F. and Mollie Olin's son, Henry Talmadge was reported to be somewhere out west during World War I.

Their son Vernon J. Olin married Frances Buffington on the 27th of June, 1917 in Eau Claire during World War I. They were divorced two years later. Vernon married again to Emma Tietz who was born in Iowa. Vernon died in 1960 at Eau Claire.

ORRIN O. OLIN, SON OF JOHN T. and ELVIRA OLIN

John Turner and Elvira E. (Holsted) Olin's third child, second son, was Orrin O. Olin, named after his Uncle Orrin who died during the Civil War. Young Orrin was born ca 1865 in the Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, WI. Very little is known of him, except for some information in two letters, dated June 16, 1880. One letter was written by ten-year-old Cora E. Olin, the youngest sister in answer to a letter to Orrin and Cora from their oldest sister, 18-year-old Julia E. Olin who was away teaching school. In her letter, Cora mentions that Orrin is going to town to get some things for their mother. The other letter written the same day was from 15-year-old Orrin to his sister, Julia.

Dear Sister

Received your letter and not thinking anything about it forgot to write until now. But I will try to write a few lines to let you know we are prospering. We are getting along very well with the farm work. We bought a lazy man's corn Plow. That is one that you ride on. I had a postal card sent to me from Philadelphia to send for the Saturday

Evening Post. They advertised that they would send an 18 Karat Solid rolled gold ring for nothing to anyone sending for the paper. I have received 3 papers but no ring. I sent them a postal card yesterday, but do not know whether it will do any good or not. The wind ruined some of the limbs of our Apple trees. Fly goes good single or double. Pete and her make a nice team. Pa drive her assessing now. Where it is bluffy He puts her in some barn and goes afoot. I have got to quit for I have got to hoe the beans and corn. All the garden vegetables are up and that is not much. We had cut 176 Bean Poles this year. The Beans are all hoed and good and the peas and tomatoes too. But I must go to hoeing or the weeds will get the start of me. Excuse all mistakes. I will close by saying Good-by. From Your Loving Brother Orrin Olin [sic]

P. S. Address your next letter to Ella. I know she will be awful tickled. This is all.

It is doubtful that Orrin Olin migrated to the west when his family did. He probably remained in Eau Claire for awhile, married and raised a family. We find him listed in the 1916-27 City Directories for Detroit, Michigan, where he is employed in one of the numerous automobile manufacturing plants. Another Orrin/Orin Olin, who appears to be younger and may be a son of our Orrin O. Olin, is listed as a machinist and later as a draftsman in the automotive world. Both owned their homes in Detroit.

ELLA OLIN, DAUGHTER OF JOHN T. and ELVIRA OLIN

Ella was the fourth of six children born to John T. and Elvira E. Olin. Her birth occurred on the 26th of June 1864, the year before the end of the Civil War. Her complexion was darker than the other children. She retained her sensual, fascinating attraction well into her later years. Although we lack the details, she married a William Fraser and shortly after moved to Los Angeles in Southern California.

Mrs. Fraser or Ella became involved with the new religious beginnings of the turn of the century. Once she became committed to a particular belief or cause, she devoted all her energy toward making it a successful vehicle for others to board. Her determination, drive, and example were inspirational to thousands of followers. Ella had the

distinctive honor of serving as President and Pastor of the Mother Church for the Temple of Divine Wisdom, Inc. The Mother Church was situated at 1422 W. 54th Street in Los Angeles and was the organizational center for dozens of smaller units or churches. All specialized in Spiritual Psychology classes and Metaphysical and Psychic Training.

She may have had education beyond high school but it seems rather doubtful. Her down-to-earth homey approach to life in general undoubtedly helped her reach the pinnacle of her career.

Again, we are fortunate to have another letter saved by the OLIN Family and in the hands of Edna Olin Hasse Fahey. The following letter was written during the later years of World War II, probably 1944, by Ella Fraser in Los Angeles to her brother Charles F. Olin in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. It is a long letter, in longhand using the Mother church stationery showing her name as President and Pastor.

Dear Brother and all,

Was so glad to get your recent letter. News from the old stamping ground is always welcome. Of course the old home and it's surroundings are still very vivid in my memory. I of course hear of the changes which are made from time to time. Have planned so many times just how I might surprise you sometime, but there has been so many changes from year to year that I have not been able to get east of the rockies yet and it would be a long walk but still I am hopeful. Was sorry I was not well enought to come to Entiat (Washington) while you were visiting there. I had a nervous break down when Lorraine, you remember Ruby's girl, passed and it took me 5 years to get back any where as I should be. Just now I have a growth on the neck of my bladder. The Dr., a fine old army Colonel is burning it off with an electric needle. I'll be alright I guess if I sit tight in the saddle. Seems as though every one is taking their turn, with doctors, hospitals and sick, as grandma Hammer Holsted would say. I had a letter from J. B. and Nettie since Will died. They have had a very tedious year with the worms and everyting to fight We may be glad to have apples with worms if this war keeps up long. Food prices are soaring. If President F. D. R. don't clip their wings they will fly so high, well, we just won't eat, that's all. You knew Nettie had blood pressure-nerves, and had to rest. I can sympathize with her. I am glad you found something that

helped you. Nothing worse than a bum stomach. Gertie, that's William's wife has been taking Karoid Bile tablets and she has got pretty well straightened out. The Family as a whole are all pretty good. Every one who usually works have jobs. William is a union truck driver and averages $30.00 per week. His wife from $22. to $25. per week. She sews on a power machine making dress bags, ironing pads, chair pads and all such things for a house. Casey works in the same place and does equally as well.

Gertrude Sawyer does not work, only on their acre and while Mugs is working she is kept busy. Both of her boys are 5' 11" and weight around 165 to 70, no runts there. John is working with construction companies all the time. He has an acre just a mile from Gertudes. He has 3 children. Jack is 16 and 5' 10" but he is a slim jim. We call him streamlined. Betty Lee is 9 and Gary is 7. Time sure has a skid under it. You can see by the Letter head what kind of work I do, anything any minister can do. I feel as though I am doing pretty fair. You see I was 71, June 26 and to take care of myself financially at this age is not so bad. Yes, Charlie, I remember Nettie very well. It was good that she had a daughter to go stay with. That is why I feel sorry for William he has no children and no hope for any as Gertie had a tumor removed 3 years ago and her organs removed also, so he will be alone in his old days as far as family is concerned. Well, Mollie (Charlie's wife), what do you do for pastime. Do you quilt, knit, crochet, braid rugs or what. I can do so many things I can't enumerate them. Charlie tells me his good times are working, well we poor old folks can take it on the chin anyway.

I have not seen Julia for nearly 2 years, 20 miles away, but it has just happened that way. She is a busy club woman. I am a busy Spiritual Minister. Some day I will break a hole in a day and go see her. Thought I would get over to the Wisconsin picnic but some thing happened to prevent it. Oh well, there will be another one soon.

How come you are back in Chippewa Falls. I thought you had a home at or near Hallie. Well poor old Imperial Valley sure got her back wet. Such a storm was certainly destructive. Ruby's husband had 900 little chicks and of course he had no place to put them when the cloud burst came. As I understand they were all drowned. Well the washed out rail roads and boulevards put lots of men to work, some good out if it anyway. Are there so many idle men back there. How

is Verne and his wife, Alton and family, and where is Forrest. You have Mae with you haven't you. Well tell any of the old friends. If you ever see Mamie Leland say hello for me. Anyone else tell em I am alive at present. Have you seen Myra lately.

Well, write again now that you have got your hand in, you know, only a few lines stops anxiety. Wish you folks could come to California. Well no more for now. So as ever with Love to All. [sic]

Your Sister Ella

For a woman of 70 years, Ella had a good memory of her family. She mentioned 30 family and old neighbors' names, relying on correspondence and her sister, Julia Ellis, who lived close by in Pasadena. From what can be deduced from her letter, her husband, Will, had died a few years earlier. The children appear to be a son, William and his wife Gertrude, another son, Jon, a daughter Gertrude married to "Mugs" Sawyer, another daughter, Ruby, and possibly another called Casey. [sic]

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

Elvira Holsted Olin, wife of John Turner Olin, center, with four of their children, ca 1885. Left to right: John Boyd Olin; Ella Olin Fraser; Julia Olin Ellis; and Charles F. Olin.

JOHN BOYD OLIN and HIS FAMILY

History of John Boyd Olin

Written by His Daughter, Edna,
and His Son, Loren - 1991

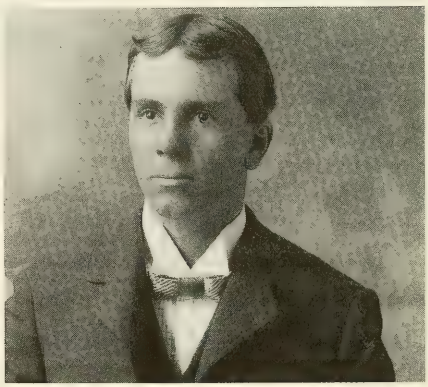
John Boyd Olin, known as Boyd, was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin to John Turner Olin and Elvira Elizabeth Holsted on the ninth of August, 1880. He lived and attended school in Eau Claire. His marriage to Nettie Jane Staples was a beautiful and happy occasion as noted in the Wheaton column dated June 16, 1903 of the Eau Claire Newspaper:

> "At the home of the bride's parents near Colfax, Dunn County on June 10 occurred the marriage of John Boyd Olin, formerly of Eau Claire and Miss Nettie Staples. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Thomas Stamp in the presence of the near relatives of the contracting parties. At 12 a bountiful dinner was served and after a few hours of social intercourse the guests departed, wishing the young couple many years of matrimonial bliss."

Another item in the same column:

> "Mr. and Mrs. L. (Julia and Llewellyn) Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. (Charles and Mollie) Olin and son Talmadge attended the Olin-Staples Wedding near Colfax on the 10th inst."

Nettie Jane was the daughter of Samuel and Ida Provida (Oliver) Staples, his second marriage.



John Boyd Olin, born 9 August, 1880, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, son of John Turner and Elvira (Holsted) Olin.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

Nettie Jane Staples, born 9 October, 1885, Colfax, Wisconsin, Wife of John Boyd Olin.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

Boyd and Nettie had two children, both girls, born to them while living in the Colfax area near Eau Claire.

As a young man, Boyd worked for a horse trader. He broke and delivered saddle horses and work teams. One instance he told of was a team of horses with a bad habit of running off. He took this team outside of town, hitched them to a wagon, and started them toward a sandhill, using the whip all the way. It soon dawned on the team to quit their errant ways. Dad later worked in the woods driving teams near Hayward, Sawyer County, in northern Wisconsin.

Three-and-half years after their marriage, 1906, Boyd took his wife, and two daughters, Ida and Mae, to Wenatchee, Washington where he was employed in his early days as a freight hauler up and down the Entiat River working for Captain Paul Stoffel on his steamboat on the Columbia River. Then, getting a job with a transfer company and happy to be back working with horses, he spent many years driving a four-horse team and wagon between Wenatchee and Chelan, a distance of some 40 miles.

Two boys and a girl were born to Boyd and Nettie: John Staples, 1908; Loren Earl, 1911; and Edna Elizabeth, 1913, all in Wenatchee, WA. Our maternal grandmother died a few days after Edna's birth. It must have been quite traumatic for our mother at that time, giving birth and accepting death. Later, we moved to a larger house with more conveniences. Our Dad was now working for Morris Hardware Company where in 1921 he suffered a severe accident, breaking a leg falling down an open elevator shaft at work. In those days, one spent a long time in the hospital and a longer time recuperating. Times were a little tough. Our Mother worked at Lee's Grocery Store to help make ends meet.

Around 1925 or early 1926, we moved out to an apple orchard on

Sunnyslope near Wenatchee. Dad was learning the apple business and in 1927 bought an 18-acre apple orchard in Entiat, roughly 20 miles up the Columbia river. While there, the family consisted of John, Earl, and Edna; both Ida and Mae were married and gone. Dad lived the rest of his years in Entiat, and added to his orchard so that he and the boys were taking care of about 30 acres. During this time Dad was an avid supporter, as well as mother, of the Entiat football teams (Earl was a player) and of the basketball teams (Edna played). Dad was always ready to take a group anywhere we were playing and always attended all games. No one ever had better support than we did. In early 1940, he suffered a severe stroke, becoming confined to a wheelchair. Mother became his caretaker, tireless in her determination to keep him at home, doing so until his death on 28th September 1945.

John Boyd and Nettie Staples Olin, ca 1932. They were married 10 June 1903 at Colfax, Wisconsin.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

Widow Nettie Staples Olin before her death , 5 January 1979, Clarkston, WA. She was buried beside her husband in Wenatchee, WA.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

John Boyd Olin died September 26, 1945 and buried in Wenatchee, Chelan County, Washington.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

Our mother kept up the ranch work with help from the boys until John Staples Olin, one of her sons, died in January 1971. She sold the orchard ranch and moved to Clarkston, near the border of Idaho, to be near her daughter, Mae. Mother died on the 5th of January, 1979.

Nettie J. Staples and her husband, John Boyd Olin stand proudly by their new Dodge automobile at their home in Entiat, WA, 1939.

—Photo Courtesy Mae Loeffelbein

Thankfully, her daughters, Mae and Edna, were there to hold her hand. She had lived a long time alone and was a faithful wife. Mother was a 40-year member and past Noble Grand of Reliance Rebekah Lodge and attended the Friend's Church at Entiat, Washington.

John Boyd Olin belonged to Entiat Lodge of Odd Fellows and belonged to the Baptist Church.

John Boyd and Nettie (Staples) Olin's first child was a daughter, Ida Elvira Olin, born 1904, Colfax, Dunn County, WI. She married

William Hale Hansen, 22 September, 1925 or 26, in Spokane, WA. William died in 1953 and Ida died a year later, both in Spokane, WA. Their marriage produced two children: Sally Diane Hansen, born 1935, and married to Richard Munk and had five children: Katherine Gail, Kenneth Dale, Donna Lynne, Denice Marie and Lori Ann.

John Boyd and Nettie Staples Olin held traditional Annual Easter Egg Hunts at their ranch in Entiat, Washington. Their first 10 grandchildren pose for a picture in 1939. Left to right: Bob Loeffelbein, their first grandson, Don Olin, son of Alma and Loren Earl Olin; Barbara Olin; Bonny Olin; Dick Olin; Jack Haase; Carol Loeffelbein, Dianne Hansen; Donald Olin; and Betty Olin, who appears to be more interested in what the Easter Egg Hunt offered.

William Hale Hansen, Jr., born 1939, married Helen Brassfield in 1960 and have three sons: William born 1961, Eric born 1965 and David born 1968.

John Boyd and Nettie Staples Olin's second child, another daughter, Mae Pearl Olin, born 1905, Colfax, Dunn County, WI married Roy E. Loeffelbein on the 6th of February 1924 at Wenatchee, Chelan County, WA. Their union resulted in two children: Robert "Bob" and Carol. Mae Pearl Olin Loeffelbein retired from the Wenatchee Montgomery Ward Store and moved to Clarkston, WA to be near her son, Robert.

Clarkston is located on the famous Lewis and Clark Trail, an expedition authorized by President Jefferson to establish a northern route to the Pacific Ocean. Mae was 90 years old in May of 1995. She attended the Coulee City OLIN Reunion in 1993 with her son, Robert.

John Boyd and Nettie Staples Olin had five children shown here in the late 1930s with their mother and spouses. Left to right: John and Rexene Dausey Olin, Alma Alexander, wife of Loren Earl Olin, Roy and Mae Olin Loeffelbein,; Ida Olin Hansen and her daughter, Sally Diane Hansen (her husband, William Hansen took the photo); Loren Earl Olin, their mother, Nettie Staples Olin, and Edna Olin with her husband, Albert Haase.

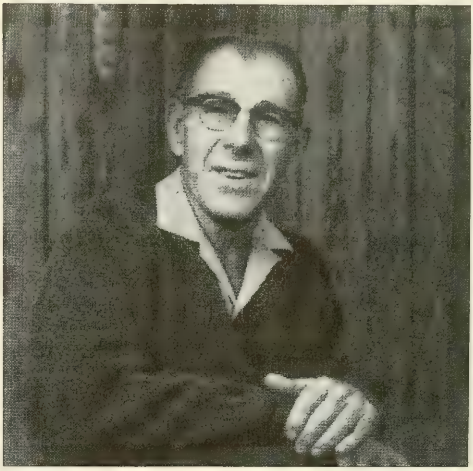
Bob has made his mark in this competitive world and is continuing to do so. He is a prolific author, having several books to his credit, and a freelance writer with thousands of short stories published in the United States and abroad. He writes a column or two for local papers and periodicals. Bob also volunteers his time and services for the betterment of his City, Clarkston. The latest project is a new recreation complex. Bob keeps up-to-date and his mind active by attending special courses at the Community College. He keeps in good physical shape by playing volleyball twice a week.

Robert Loeffelbein married Mary Ann Abraham in 1950 at Wenatchee, WA and had a daughter, Pamela, born in 1951.

Carol Ann Loeffelbein married Everett Smolanski and had a son, Steve, born in 1956

John Staples Olin, born 16 February 1908, Wenatchee, WA was the first son and third child born to John Boyd Olin and Nettie Jane Staples. He was 21 years old when he married Susan Jane Cooke on the 6th of February 1928 or 29 at Malaga, WA. Susan Jane Cooke was

two years younger than John, born 22nd February 1910. She died in 1959 at the young age of 49. John Staples and Susan Cooke Olin had three children: Barbara Jane Olin, born 23 April 1930; Donald Wayne Olin, born 10 November 1936; and Beverly Mae Olin, born 20 August 1938.



John Staples Olin, son of John Boyd Olin, ca 1970

—Photo Courtesy Beverly Brunet

Barbara Jane Olin had three marriages. The first was to William Kern on 11 February 1952, in Idaho. She and William had two children: Susan Camille, born 1953; and Sandra May, born 1956. Susan Camille Kern had two marriages, the first in 1971 to Charles Barkly and producing a son, William T., born 1971. Her second marriage was to Terrance Knalkiam and yielding two children: Jeremy, born 1975; and Karrina, born 1977. Sandra May Olin married Kerry Smith, 11 December 1980 and they had two children: Chad A., born 1979 and Emma M., born 1981.

Barbara Jane Olin's second marriage, 7 July 1956, to Lowell J. Reynolds yielded three more children: John Scott Reynolds; Steven Leming Reynolds; and Sherri Reynolds. John Scott, born 1956 married twice: first to Terri Runyon in 1976 and they had one child, Jason L., born 1976. His second marriage, 1985, to Leslie Henderson resulted in a daughter, Danielle, born 1985, and a step-daughter, Angela, born 1979. Steven Leming Reynolds, born 1958, was married to Judith Harris in 1987. He had a son, Steven L. born 1988 and two step-children: Joshua and Jessica Harris, born 1982 and 1986, respectively. Sherri Reynolds was born in 1964 with no further information provided.

Barbara Jane Olin's third marriage was to Eugene Sands and having

no issue.

Donald Wayne Olin, the only son of John Staples Olin and Susan Jane Cooke was born 10 November 1933. He married Linda McHuston on the Fourth of July 1951. They had three children; George Michael, born 1959; James Monroe, born 1963; and Cecil Lee, born 1965.

John and Susan Olin's youngest daughter, Beverly Mae Olin, born 20 August 1938 married John "Jack" Brunet on the 28th of December 1967. The Brunets had five children: John Anthony, born 16 October 1958; Susan Rondella, who married Charles Edward Egan in 1982 and had a son, Charles Edward Egan III, born 1982; Gerald "Gerry" with no information; Kenneth Mark who married Tamara J. Bishop in 1989 and has a son, Joshua Mark, born 1991; and Thomas Glenn, who sired a son with Patricia Beal. The son's name is Sean Thomas Brunet, born 16 January 1991.

Beverly Mae Olin Brunet's husband Jack died in early 1990's. She works in a factory that manufactures wheels for shopping carts.

Beverly Mae Olin Brunet, daughter of John Staples Olin, ca 1970

—Photo Courtesy Beverly Brunet

John Staples Olin married a second time, to Rexlene Shamley Dausey. John died on the 4th of January, 1971. He was kind and compassionate with everyone regardless of race or religion. He owned a sizable apple orchard and a packing house, and employed many local and migrant workers. He provided better working and living conditions than did his competitors. He would often give a piece of land to a

hard-up but industrious migrant and even help the family erect a house of their own. The migrant family became a permanent neighbor and usually a year-round employee. In other words, John S. Olin shared his modest wealth, mostly love and kind deeds, with the less fortunate.

The second son and fourth child of John Boyd and Nettie (Staples) Olin was Loren Earl, born 1911, Wenatchee, WA. His birth occurred on a Sunday with Dr. Culp in attendance. He married Alma Alexander the day after he celebrated the Fourth of July in 1931. The marriage took place in Coeur d' Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho.

Loren was an active sports participant during his high school years. His father encouraged him and attended most of his track meets and basketball and football games. Loren's father, John Boyd Olin, was a teamster, hauling freight by four-horses team and wagon in central Washington.

Alma Alexander, born 2 April 1911, went west to Washington with her parents in 1930. The Alexanders left a thriving dairy farm of 280 acres in Wisconsin; they were lured by the glowing accounts of the fertile valleys in Washington where choice apples were grown Alma was an enthusiastic basketball player in her school. She began her working career in a Wenatchee mill making shipping boxes for Washington States's famous red and yellow delicious apples.

Both Loren Olin and Alma Alexander loved to round and square dance. They met on the dance floor of a local hall known as the "Bucket of Blood." Loren had a 1928 Model 'A' Ford and spent $1.50 every Saturday night until Alma agreed to marry him: 50 cents for gas, 50 cents for dance tickets, and 50 cents for food.

The Olins had four children: Donald Elston; Bonnie Jean; Richard Dale; and Betty Pauline. As the family increased and living conditions became crowded in town, the OLIN Family moved out to a small apple orchard farm. Here, the children were required to do daily chores but still they had time enough to get into mischief. One time they found a rattlesnake in their root cellar. Everyone was scared and excited except their father. Loren calmly broke off a slat from the picket fence, notched one end with his pocket knife, and proceeded to give his children a lesson in catching, holding and killing a rattlesnake without being bitten.

Alma secured a job packing apples for shipment to the eastern markets. At that time the red and golden Delicious "fancies" were wrapped individually with tissue paper. Alma was capable of wrapping and packing 210 boxes a day for 3-½ cents a box or $7.35 per day. Her daughters took their turn at packing apples, but were never able to keep up with their mother. Alma also worked in a restaurant at times

and Loren became a part-time carpenter to supplement the income from his expanded orchard. He helped his son, Richard, build and operate a service station. The Olins moved to Renton, WA in 1972, to another small apple orchard farm, ten miles southeast of Seattle.

Loren became interested in his OLIN Family History as he grew older and gradually convinced other immediate family members to become involved. In 1991, Loren and Alma Olin produced a VHS video tape of his family and direct ancestors. Olin ingenuity prevailed as Loren rigged a set of rollers on which he rolled a continuous sheet taped together of 200 8x11 sheets of paper containing typed genealogical information and photos. He positioned his rollers on the table in front of Alma and himself with the video/audio camera fixed behind them focused on the sheet displayed between the rollers. Alma would turn the roller to advance the sheets while Loren narrated the information. This was a truly remarkable endeavor by the 81-year-old couple, both of whom were nearly blind at the time.

Loren and a nephew, Donald Wayne Olin, organized the first West Coast Annual OLIN Reunion in honor of all Olins descended from the original John Olin who arrived in America ca 1678. Loren and Donald Olin are of the Joseph Olin branch, the oldest son of the original John Olin.

Loren Earl Olin and Alma Alexander Olin's first son, Donald Elston Olin, born 23 April 1930, married Shirley L. Couch, and they had a daughter, Donna Renee Olin. Loren and Alma's first daughter, Bonnie Jean Olin, born 6 October 1932, married Melville Jack Rothrock in 1950 at Wenatchee, WA. They had three children: Melville Jack, Jr., born 1951, who married Jeanie _____ from Taiwan in 1974 at Renton, WA who in turn had two children: Vicki Lynn, born 1985; and Brandon, born 1992.

Bonnie and Jack Rothrock's second child was Jeanine Erline, born 1952 and married in 1972 to Donald W. Smith. The Smiths had two children: Jay Robert born 1977; and Jeffery Lawrence, born 1984. Jeanine's second marriage to Charles Adams, 1987, in Spokane, WA resulted in a daughter, Jacqueline Jean, born 1987. Bonnie and Jack Rothrock's youngest child, a daughter, Pamela Dean was born in 1955.

Loren and Alma Olin's third child, Richard Dale Olin, born 9 December 1933, married Diane R. Evans, born 17 October 1935. Their first child was Loren Dale, born 1958 who married Edith Benadice in 1980 at Chelton, WA; they had two children: Richard Dale, born 1982; and Donna Christine, born 1985. Their second son was Lawrence Dean, born 1959 who married Dorothy Ethridge in 1979 in Alaska. They have two children: Stephanie, born 1980; and Shawn, born 1984.

Richard Dale Olin's second marriage, 1960 at Gardenia, CA was to Cathleen Briskie and they had three children: Jacob Earl; Carol Ann; and Barbara Jean. Jacob Earl Olin was born 1961 and married in 1984 to Vicki L. Hogan in Edmonds, WA. They had two sons: Joshua Earl, born 1985 and Jared Daniel, born 1987. Carol Ann was born 1962 and married in 1980 to Scott Taylor at Maple Valley, WA. They were blessed with twin boys, Jonathan Scott and Jason Elliot, born 1988. Barbara Jean Olin, born 1963, married Edward Nations in 1983 at Renton, WA and had a son, Kyle Edward, born 1991.

—Photo Courtesy Loren Earl OLIN Family

The children of Loren Earl and Alma Alexander Olin celebrate their parent's 60th Wedding Anniversary, July 5, 1991 at Renton, Washington. Left to Right: Betty Pauline Olin Little; Bonnie Jean Olin Rothrock; Alma B. Alexander Olin; Loren Earl Olin; Donald Elston Olin; and Richard Dale Olin.

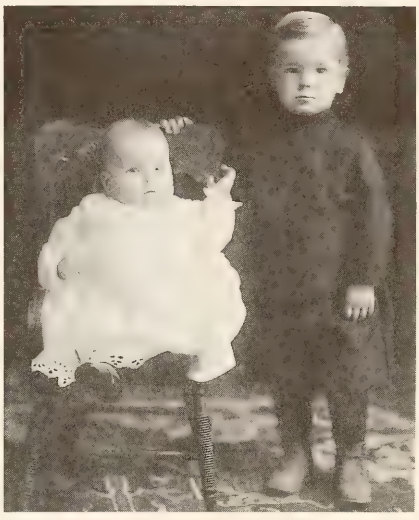
Loren and Alma Olin's youngest child, Betty Pauline, born 15 October 1936, married Clem LaVerne Little in 1958 at Entiant, WA. Clem and Betty Little had three children: Clem LaVerne; Lucinda Kay; and Michael Ron. Young Clem was born 1954 and married first in Ephrata, WA to Fadia D'Arcy and had two children: Jeremy La Verne, born 1972; and Errin Rachel, born 1976. Young Clem's second marriage in Spokane, WA was to Cathy Jennings and they had two children; JoAnn Morgan, born 1985; and Charles Timothy, born 1989.

Clem and Betty Olin Little's second child, Lucinda Kay, born 1957, married first to Donald Wells in Auburn, WA. Donald and Lucinda Wells had two children: Donald and Corrina. Lucinda Kay's second

marriage was to Danny Powers in 1987. They had four children: Ann, born 1982; twins, Jessie Jane and K. Ryan, born 1985; and Taylor born 1989.

Clem and Betty Olin Little's third child, Michael Ron, born 1959, married Linda M. Harriett, 1980 in Kent, WA. They may have had a child born 8 November 1982; and a son Ross William, born 17 January 1986.

And finally, the baby of the John Boyd Olin and Nettie Jane Staples five children, Edna was born 1913 in Wenatchee, Washington. This is her story of her own family as she wrote it in 1991.



Edna Elizabeth Olin, age six months and her brother, Loren Earl Olin, not quite three years old, children of John Boyd and Nettie Staples Olin, 1913.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Haase Fahey

"I was born on 19 May 1913 to John Boyd Olin and Nettie Staples Olin on Emerson Street, Wenatchee, Washington. My maternal grandmother, Ida Staples, lay dying in adjoining room. She passed away on 24 May 1913. I never knew either my paternal or maternal grandparents.

My schooling was in Wenatchee Grade School, and I had one semester at Wenatchee High School. My parents moved to Entiat, Washington, 20 miles from Wenatchee, in January of 1927. There I finished my high schooling, graduated with the Class of 1930, with the honor of being Salutatorian. I was active in basketball, our team winning the championship of the county, in track and tennis.

I went to Wenatchee Business College and later worked in

Wenatchee for a while. Having fallen in love with the High School Coach, we decided to marry on July 13, 1931 as he would be in Seattle getting his Master's Degree. His name was Albert P. Haase (pronounced Hays). Our first summer together was in Seattle and then came back to Entiat to his teaching and coaching job at the High School. We also bought a 5 acre apple orchard so Al was busy teaching, coaching, getting up early in the mornings to work in the orchard. On 6 September 1934 we were blessed with a healthy son, John Albert Haase but always known as Jack. he was named after my Dad and his Dad.

In 1935 we moved to Tolt, Washington near Seattle where Al taught and coached. We lived there until the summer of 1940 when he procured a teaching and coaching job with the Walla Walla High School where we have lived through the present time. Al suffered a severe and fatal heart attack on June 13, 1981, one month to the day of our 50th Wedding Anniversary. During that time in Walla Walla we were also blessed with a daughter, Judy Ann Haase, born 9 July 1947.

Son Jack graduated from local schools and finished at the University of Washington in Seattle where his father had graduated. Jack was in the Naval ROTC program, finishing as an Ensign and was married in 1956 and he and his bride, Dawn Ann Fitch of Seattle, drove to Florida where he was in training as a Naval Aviator. He flew F8U2 Crusader plane as a member of the Navy fighter squadron based aboard the super Carrier Forrestal in the Mediterranean. In High School, he was on the ski team and continued with this in College, winning letters in skiing and rowing. In 1960 he left the Navy and was employed by Boise Cascade near Walla Walla, first as a salesman, later managing plants in St. Helens, International Falls, Minnestoa; and back to Portland, Oregon and is now Senior Vice President living in Boise, Idaho. In 1966 his wife died from cancer at the age of 29, very tragic. They had two children: Heidi Ann and Jeffery at that time. He later remarried to a local Walla Walla woman, Margaret Klundt, and they have two children: Megan Michelle; and Jason Alexander. The family now lives in Boise, Idaho.

Judy Ann, our daughter, graduated from local schools and from Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, with distinction. She was married to Michael McDole on August 2, 1969 and started teaching in the same grade school from which she graduated. She has

continued teaching through now. They have three boys: Lee; Ian; and Paul.

In 1969 after Judy was married, Al and I planned a year in Europe taking delivery of a Mercedes in Germany and spent the whole year travelling. It was a wonderful experience and I became thoroughly enamored with all those countries. After Al's death, I did a lot of overseas travelling (we had already seen most of the United States) and in 1982, while on a tour of Australia, New Zealand and the Fiji Islands, I met a wonderful person who became a good friend, we fell in love and were married eight months later. He had lost his wife in September of 1981 after 51 years and I had lost my husband in July of 1981 just one month short of our 50th. After becoming acquainted with Jack Fahey, I learned that he and his wife had lived in Wenatchee during the same time I worked there and since he was a chemist he had worked with the same man for whom I worked but he was in the Lab and I was in the Court House. To my knowledge we never met. He was married and I was not.

Later, we found out we both had the same doctor for our first child. We have had many coincidences since, and it seems we were destined to meet. He had scheduled his trip to Australia and then changed the itinerary which turned out to be the same as mine. He had been living in Lafayette, Indiana for many, many years. After retirement from the government, he did research work at Purdue University for seven years and was retired when I finally met him. We have had a very happy almost eight years together and have done much overseas traveling, mine being returning to places he did not have the opportunity to visit. I am most fortunate to have been able to travel to over 90 countries and islands outside of the United States, and we are planning to return to Kenya in September of this year for another safari. This will be my third trip and Jack's second, so you can see we really like it there. We are both photographers. I take slides and he takes snaps, but this year he has progressed to a camcorder, so it should be a lot of fun to photograph the animals.

We have complete scrap books of all our travels and I have, to date, 58 carousals of 140 slides each!

Other hobbies I have are flower gardening, and lap swimming. I have had to give up my bicycling and other forms of exercise since I am "blessed" by arthritis but I try not to let it get the best of me. Three

years ago I had a complete artificial left knee replacement, and it works wonderfully.

Edna Elizabeth Olin Haase Fahey, 1969, Walla Walla, Washington. She was the youngest child of John Boyd and Nettie Staples Olin, born 1913.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Haase Fahey

I have so much I still want to do and places I want to go! Life has been good to me, and I enjoy my family, my grandchildren (7) and great-grandchildren (2).

Incidentally, I still have my Mercedes! It is a 280 SE, fuel injection, and except for wear and tear on the interior it looks like new, never been in an accident (yet)!

John Albert Haase and Dawn Ann Finch, Jack's first wife, had two children. Heidi Ann Haase, born 21 April 1958 in Jacksonville, FL, married David MacNamara, 7 June 1980 in Seattle, WA. The MacNamara's had two sons: Ryan Lee, born 1980; and Andrew David, born 1983, both in Seattle, WA. Jack and Dawn's other child was Jeffrey John Haase, born 25 November 1959 in Seattle, WA.

John Albert Haase and Margaret Klundt, his second wife, had two children: Megan Michelle Haase, born 8 September 1971; and Jason Alexander Haase, born 1 November 1974, both at International Falls, MN.

Judith Ann Haase and Michael Lee McDole had three sons born in Walla Walla, WA: Lee Michael, born 25 July 1976; Ian Paul, born 30 May 1979; and Paul Michael, born 6 April 1981.

Edna Olin Haase's second marriage in 1983, Lafayette, IN, to Jack Edward Fahey, brought two more children into her family: Shirley Fahey Young, born 1931; and Jaclyn Fahey Johnson, born 1938.

CORA E. OLIN, DAUGHTER OF JOHN T. and ELVIRA OLIN

The youngest daughter of John T. and Elvira Olin was Cora E., born ca 1870 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Very little is known about her. In fact, the next generation did not know of her existence. Luckily, one of her letters she wrote as a ten-year-old to her oldest sister, Julia, was saved. This letter was written in Eau Claire and dated June 16, 1880:

Dear Sister,

I read your letter which you wrote to Orrie and me with pleasure. We think it is better to have a farm than it is to have a sawmill that is if it were situated where our is and not on a river bottom. Charlie is cultivating the corn and Orrie is hoeing in the garden. There has not been any school for this week for the teacher is on the west side and can not get to the east side without riding across over in a boat. Ma is making about twelve pounds of butter a week this summer. Orrie went to town yesterday to get Mamma some things. She told him to get some cloth for window curtain linings. He got some factory that was real good. She told him to get some salt and if he could not get some fine barrel salt to get some sack salt. But he got some salt next to rock salt but Mamma could not salt her butter with that, but they could give it to the horses and cattle. Pappa is assessing now but I must stop writing so as to give Orrie a chance so I will close. When you come home will you bring some pieces for my quilt.

Good-by for this time. Cora E. Olin [sic]

Cora mentions her brothers, Charlie and Orrin. The reason that she was home from school could have been another bridge washout similar to others in the past.

Cora E. Olin was married May 4, 1888 in Eau Claire to Reuben W. Gentis of Sparta. They had two daughter, Gertrude and Kathryn, born within the next two years. It is believed that complications during the births lead to Cora's death about 1891. It is also believed that one and perhaps both of the daughters died in infancy. Possibly there was more involved with Cora's tragedy than the family was willing to accept, thereby the younger generations were not told about their aunt or cousin.

—Photo Courtesy Edna Olin Haase Fahey

The children of John Turner and Elvira Holsted Olin attended this school near Eau Claire, WI, during the years following the Civil War. John Boyd stands at the far right and his sister Cora E. is one of the smaller girls near the center. John Boyd and his brother, Charles F. were buried in the cemetery behind the schoolhouse.

This postal card of John Boyd Olin and his team of horse hauling freight in Wenatchee, Washington was dated 1911 and mailed from Spokane, WA. It was sent by Stanley P. Olin, a cousin to John Boyd Olin through their grandfathers who were early settlers in Eau Claire County, Wisconsin. (George and Calvin Olin were brothers, born in Vermont, sons of Reuben and Hannah Nichols Olin.)

Stanley's message to his father, Manum C. Olin, back in Wisconsin, reads, *"This is Boyd with 260 boxes of peaches leaving the boat docks. He has the best team in town and hauls the largest loads. All's well here, doing nothing but eat."*

Chapter 33

Son, Silas Milton Olin

Silas M. Olin was the second son of George and Mary Turner Olin. Five years separated the birth of John T. and Silas. Although no record exists, it seems probable that George and Mary may have had a child or two who perhaps died as an infant. Like his brothers and sister, Silas, experienced the hardships of Iowas' frontier life and the subsequent moves to Eau Claire. Silas' education was quite limited, probably to four years back in New York State. By the time the family settled in Eau Claire, he may have attended another year or so.

Silas left home when he was 21 years old to work and accumulate saving for himself. In 1864, three days before Christmas, at age 25, he married Bessie E. Flinn (Flyn), born in Canada, daughter of Paul and Eliza (Reed) Flinn (Flyn). They had just one known child, a son, Leonard, born ca 1866. Like his father and brother, Silas was able to purchase 80 acres of prime farm land in Washington Township, Eau Claire County, WI. He, too, proved to be one of Wisconsin's finest farmers.

Being a low profile person, Silas' political beliefs were moderate and like the rest of the Olins and their neighbors, he voted in favor of the prohibitionists. He chuckled over the political bouncing between the people of east and west Eau Claire, often shook his head in wonderment over their decisions. When a truss bridge was built over the Chippewa River that separated the village, the citizens of each side naturally wished to have their side recognized as the heart of the village. Consequently, when the County Court House was built in 1871 on the west side, a new brick post office appeared on the east side. Controversy arose next over the location of a new jail and high school.

When Eau Claire was officially declared a city in 1972, it was forced to provide fire and police protection and water and sewer systems.

City fathers insisted that future downtown buildings be constructed of brick and that the city streets were to be paved with bricks. Silas watched with awe the modern progress of a proper city. He saw the

catch basins for surface water and the deep sewer lines that emptied directly into the Chippewa River. Silas became vocal in his opinions. He complained to the Village fathers that emptying the sewage into the river was wrong. The politicians explained that the raw sewage, as it emptied into the river would be transferred by way of "The Father of Waters", meaning the Mississippi River, to the Gulf of Mexico. So began today's pollution problems.

Silas died in August, 1907, at age 68 in his home in the Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, WI. His wife Bessie outlived her husband by 15 years, and died in February, 1922 at Eau Claire.

Silas and Bessie Olin's son, Leonard, born 10 May 1866, Eau Claire, WI, was married in 1890 at Eau Claire to Jessie May Jackson, born 18 December 1866, Sparta, WI, daughter of Kading and Sarah Jackson, of Sparta, WI. Leonard continued to live on and operate his father's farm until his own death in September, 1926 at Eau Claire. He and Jessie had at least three known children: Harold M., born 1893; Martha (Mary) Elizabeth, born 1895; and Marjorie I., born 1905, all on the farm at Eau Claire. Jessie died in April 1923 in Eau Claire, three years before her husband's death.

Silas's wife, Bessie's death occurred two months before the death of his brother John T.'s wife, Elvira, in the early spring of 1922. The loss of two favorite aunts, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers must have been a devastating shock to the OLIN Family.

Leonard and Jessie Olin's daughter, Marjorie I. Olin, married Theodore Sands ca 1926 in LaPlatte, Nebraska. They had three sons: Theodore Sands, Jr. born 26 September 1927, married Catherine Wilson, born 28 January, 1929.

Theodore (Ted) and Marjorie (Olin) Sands' second son, Bruce Waldemar Sands, born 16 July 1929 married Patricia M. Logan, born 23 September 1931 about 1949 in LaPlatte, NE and had five children. Thomas Bruce Sands, born 1950, married Monica Citta, born 1950. Their marriage took place in Bellevue, NE. James Patrick Sands, born 1952, married Lois Jean Keith, ca 1972 in Lincoln, NE and had three children: Bruce Keith Sands, born 1974; Patrick Michael Sands, born 1978; and Angela Jean Sands, born 1981. Donald LeRoy Sands, born 1953 married Deborah Lynn Landon, born 1956, about 1972 in Omaha, NE and had two children: Christopher Sands, born 1973; and Jerod Sands, born 1980. Charles Theodore Sands, born 1956 married Judith

Ann Getz, born 1958, ca 1978, in Omaha, NE and had one child, Jason Charles Sands, born 1979. Christine Marie Sands, born 1958, married Daniel T. Moore in Papillion, NE.

Ted and Marjorie (Olin) Sands' third son, Gary Olin Sands, born 15 December 1934, married Rita Jean Halterman, born 4 December 1936, about 1956 in Bellevue, NE. They have at least two children: Timothy Allen Sands, born 10 September 1957 who married in Bellevue, NE, Kathy A. Shank, born 16 March 1959; and Julia Jo Sands, born 28 November 1958.

This Sands/OLIN Family is another fine example of "kinfolk" grouping within a specific area in America. They have four generations established within a 25-mile radius of Omaha, Nebraska. One would suspect that they have several family get-togethers during the year or at the very least, a once-a-year family reunion.

Chapter 34

Son, Orrin O. Olin

Orrin Orson Olin, born ca 1840, Davenport, Delaware county, NY was the third son of George and Mary E. (Turner) Olin. He traveled the same route from New York to Iowa Territory to Wisconsin as did his siblings and received a minimal school education. As he grew older, his family and friends recognized his exceptionally strong and steadfast character. He was always available for those desperately in need of help, a champion for the underdog. Orrin spoke passionately in support of the abolitionists' stand against slavery in the South.

When President Lincoln requested more volunteers to join the Union Army early in the Civil War, Orrin O. Olin was one of 17 Wisconsin Olins to serve in Wisconsin regiments. Orrin and his brother, Wyman D., volunteered as privates along with two brothers-in-law, George and A. H. Holsted and a cousin, Milo Wyman for Company L, 2nd Regiment of Wisconsin Cavalry. These Olin and related Olin men remained together and participated in skirmishes west of the Mississippi River through Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, and the siege of Vicksburg in Mississippi.

Hundreds of letters were sent back and forth from the homes in Wisconsin and the traveling 2nd Regiment of the Wisconsin Cavalry. A few of Orrin's letters have survived the ravages of time. Orrin's grand niece, Edna Olin Hasse Fahey, daughter of John Boyd Olin, has preserved and transcribed his letters. In them he describes many details of Union Army life, some that have never been openly published. His first surviving letter was written early in 1862.

Sister Vira

I will write a few lines to you for fear you may think I have forgotten you. Don't think so, for I think of you often every time I think of home and that is pretty often. They have not taken me prisoner yet, nor have they killed me. I will stay around amongst the rest of the boys and that is all I can say. I just escaped the hospital and that is all. I

have done no duty for about two months. I think I shall be able to go on duty in a few days. M. Wyman is here. He is on duty today. He can't get a discharge. We don't have to do any cooking now. We have got a negro cook which muscles up our grub for us so we make out to eat it. If you will let me know when you are going to serve a mess of huckleberries I will come up and help you eat them and have a time in general. We have fruit down here such as apples, peaches, plums, grundy pears, figs, but we dare not eat many of them for they are not considered healthy. We have clear cold water, but it is not healty. You spoke of fourth of July of what a good time you had. I am glad to hear of it. All I regret is that I was not there to help you enjoy it. I was in Ark. We marched all day and some of the night. I must let off writing of want of room, so with my respect to all, I will close. Write every chance you can. [sic]

I love you, Orrin Olin

Sister Vira was Elvira Holsted Olin, his brother, John T's wife. Orrin demonstrated love and consideration to all the Olin females, whether they were young or old. The last two sentences were written upside down in the margin. His second letter was to his brother, John T. dated June 23, 1862, and sent from Helena, Arkansas.

Dear Brother,

I once more take pen in hand to answer you most welcome letter which came to hand yesterday. I began to think you had forgotten me for I had not heard from you from the time we left Springfield till now. The most of the boys of which you are acquainted have been sick and a great many others. One is George W. H.. has been pretty sick with the bilian fever. M. Beed and John Vanghan has had it. Milo is sick with the ague and fever. Milo had a turn of it yesterday. I have had the same myself. I am coming out of it pretty fast. George gains slowly. All of the sick are on the gain. We now have a batry with our regiment of four pounders which has to be manned. They are fortifying this place. They take the negroes to do work. That's what the matter. There was string of negroes passed our tent this morning of about one hundred, two abreast going to work. Two white men with them. George H. received a letter from Wing yesterday. He told George he had made arrangements for you to take George's cattle if he wanted

them to leave the valley. George wants you to take them and take care of them and he will make it right with you. Wing wrote that there was a man going to jump his claim. He wants his father to take that money up there and deed that piece of land for him. You wanted to know what them boys' names were that Capt. said ran away. I hardly know who he meant. I can tell you who I think it was. Henry Hautonman and Henry Armstong. They are the only two that left the company. This is all at present.

[sic] *Write soon Orin Olin*

We wonder who "Wing" might be. The other names are family and neighbors. Orrin signs this letter and his rest as Orin, using just one "R." The next letter is not dated but appears to be in 1862.

Sister Vera

I thought I would write a few lines in answer to yours which I received some time ago. I was glad to hear from you. I meant to have written sooner, but it was impossible to get a letter to any office. We have a slim chance to get them to the office. Then they are taken by boats which pass up the river. George has just come in from a scout. We have all the horseback riding we want. As to Old Jack, you can ride him anytime you want to as far as I am concerned. Don't spare him, ride him as fast as you want to. I like fast riding myself. Let the girls. They can ride him anytime they get a chance. I hope they can get a chance anytime they want to ride. I can't think of much more to write. Write soon.

[sic] *From your Brother Orin Olin*

Orrin's next letter is dated July 16, 1862 to his brother, John T. Olin.

Dear Brother

I now take a position answer all the letters which I received about six weeks ago. We were at Lebanon at that time. I would have answered it there but there was no way to get a letter to a post office. I have had no chance until now. We started for Lebanon from some place we knew not where until we got there. When we got there, then we started for another place in the same vicinity. So it has been all the way through. At last we have reached the Mississippi at last. We hope

we shall not leave it again. We have had a long and weresome march. We have marched night and day. Some times we have had to start a 3 o'clock in the morning. Sometimes we went all day and night without anything to eat and sometimes longer and we have been on half rations. The reason is we could not get our gun boats on white river. The roads were bad and it took longer than we expected to get through. We have several skirmishes while coming through. Were in two of them. Perhaps you have heard. The one we had at Ozark, I was not in it. We was fired upon while shouting on the road by some Jayhawkers. There was one Lieutenet wounded in the arm. His name is Ring. None other hurt. Two horses wounded slightly. The 11th Wis and the Indiana Cavalry had a fight at Calen Plantation. There were about 60 rebels we know of and a great many wounded. There were six of our men killed. I don't know how many there was wounded. There were a great many horses killed. We hear that Richmond is taken and then we hear it ain't. We have neither paper nor letter yet but hope we shall get some in a few days. I am anxious to hear from you once more. I hope we will get out of it before long, for it is no easy task to be a soldier. He has to be up early and late and out in all kinds of weather. I have been tough and hearty until a few days past. I have not been very well. The warm weather don't agree with me very well. (?) a few miles and other things once and awhile. George H is in good health. We have a few sick. Robbins, Tarbose, Coo are sick. I have not heard from the boys at Springfield since I left, but once. I don't think of more to write at present. I will think of something else to write next time. Give my respects to yourself. Concluded. Write soon as you get this and let me know how you get along. This is all at present. [sic]

Orin Olin

The above letter was Orrin's longest. He was behind in his correspondence and had just received a share of writing paper. Orrin's last Civil War letter was sent from Helena AK to Elvira dated October 24, 1862.

Sister Vera

I seat myself once more to write a few lines to you. I should have written before but I felt too weak to do anything. I feel a little better today. I have just been in town. It is but about half a mile to town.

I was somewhat tired when I got back, but I have got considerable rest. I shall have to answer all of your letters in one. I went up to Cairo and stayed a week and then the medical director sent me back with fever. (?) enjoys pretty good health. I had rather hard fair. Enough of this! I left there! The vituals was not fit for a sick man to look at. That was at the Soldiers home. We had dry bread, potatoes without anything to put of them, raw onions and a piece of pork or beef and a pail of coffee set in the middle of the table, tin cups to drink out of. I lived one week there before I could get away. But I lived through it and am with my Co. now. I should like to be home about a month. I think I would recoup very fast if I could get something I could eat. Produce of all kinds are pretty high here. Blackberries are fifty cents apiece here. Butter thirty cents a pound. There is not much going on here at present. I believe there was a forage train taken yesterday and some cavalry. Home many, I don't know. Our men are in persuit of the rebels who took the train. As there is not much news to write and I am getting tired, I will have to close. Give my respects to all who may inquire and save a good share for yourself. Excuse all mistakes and bad spelling. Write soon to your brother
[sic] *Orin Olin*

Orrin O. Olin's name had undergone various changes in the family and the Army. His full name was Orrin Orson Olin. At times the Orrin would have a single "r" and at times, particularly the Army, his first given name became Orson.

Orrin never made it home for those luscious home cooked meals or to visit with his family. He died, not from battle wounds, but from typhoid fever on December 28, 1862. He was very ill and was being transported with others by an Army confiscated hospital boat up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, MO. Twenty-two year old Orrin Orson Olin was taken off the boat and buried along the river bank near Helena, AK. He served and gave his life during his country's need and his family was proud of him. His brother and sister-in-law, John T and Elvira (Holsted) Olin, paid him the honor of naming a son, born 1865, Orin Olin.

Chapter 35

Son,Wyman D. and Daughter, Mary E. Olin

Very little information has been found on Wyman D. Olin, the fourth and last son born to George and Mary Olin. He was born about 1842 in Davenport, Delaware County, New York. His first name, Wyman, came from his Aunt Lucinda's married name. She married David Wyman somewhere in New York State before the birth of her nephew, Wyman D. Olin. His middle initial "D", may signify the name "Dilworth" for two reasons. First, another Aunt, Sally, married a Dilworth about the same time that her sister Lucinda married. The second reason for suggesting Dilworth for Wyman's middle name comes from a letter dated 16 May 1863 during the Civil War written to John T. Olin, (the oldest brother of Wyman) from A. H. Holsted, (a brother of Elvira, John T.'s wife.) A. H. Holsted asked John T. about several people of which a Dill was mentioned. Research fails to find any other person who would be remotely connected to the name, "Dill." It could be short for Dilworth, perhaps preferred over the first name, Wyman.

A war between the northern and southern states was in progress. The Union was in desperate need of fighting men. Twenty-one year old Dilworth Olin, five feet, seven inches farmer born in Delaware County, NY, enlisted on October 20, 1862 at Eau Claire Wisconsin. He joined Company L, 2nd Regiment Wisconsin Cavalry at Madison on 24 October 1862. He entered as a private, accepting $25 of his promised $100 bounty and agreed to serve three years.

Wyman Dilworth (Dill/Dilly) traveled and fought the same routes and battles as his brother, Orrin O. Olin and his brothers-in-law, Albert and George Holsted. He made a trip home to visit his family in September, 1863; he received transportation money of $5.32. He was promoted to corporal in August, 1864. Illness hospitalized him in December, 1864 at McPherson General Hospital, Vicksburg, Mississippi. Dilworth Olin died of chronic diarrhea, January 24, 1865 at the Adams Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee.

Apparently the remaining $75 of his bounty was paid to his

parents, George and Mary Olin of Eau Claire, WI. The deceased soldier's inventory of effects had no effects listed and, as often happens, his surname, Olin was misspelled to read "OLIVE."

MARY E. OLIN, DAUGHTER OF GEORGE and MARY OLIN

Again we have practically no information of George and Mary's last child, Mary E. born ca 1844 in Davenport, Delaware County, New York. Young Mary E. and her brother, Wyman D., did not attend school in Davenport because they were too young. Their schooling started in Wisconsin, and they should have completed at least eight grades of common school education. It is obvious that Mary E. Turner Olin named her only daughter after herself. Young Mary E. married George W. Riley, a Canadian, on 21st of March, 1866. A search for their children, if any, residence or records of death has been disappointing.

George and Mary E. (Turner) Olin did have another daughter, name not known, born ca 1836 in Davenport, Delaware County, NY.

1840 US Census for Delaware County, New York for George Olin

3 males under 5 years of age . . . . . 1 female under 5 years of age
1 male 20 to 30 years old . . . . . 1 female 20 to 30 years old

The three young males were: John T.; Silas Milton; and Orrin O. The one young female was probably born between 1835 and 1837 and probably died shortly after 1840 as no mention of this girl's name has surfaced. The male and female between ages 20 and 30 are the mother and father. Two other children: Wyman D.; and Mary E. were not born until after 1840.

CHART - 15 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

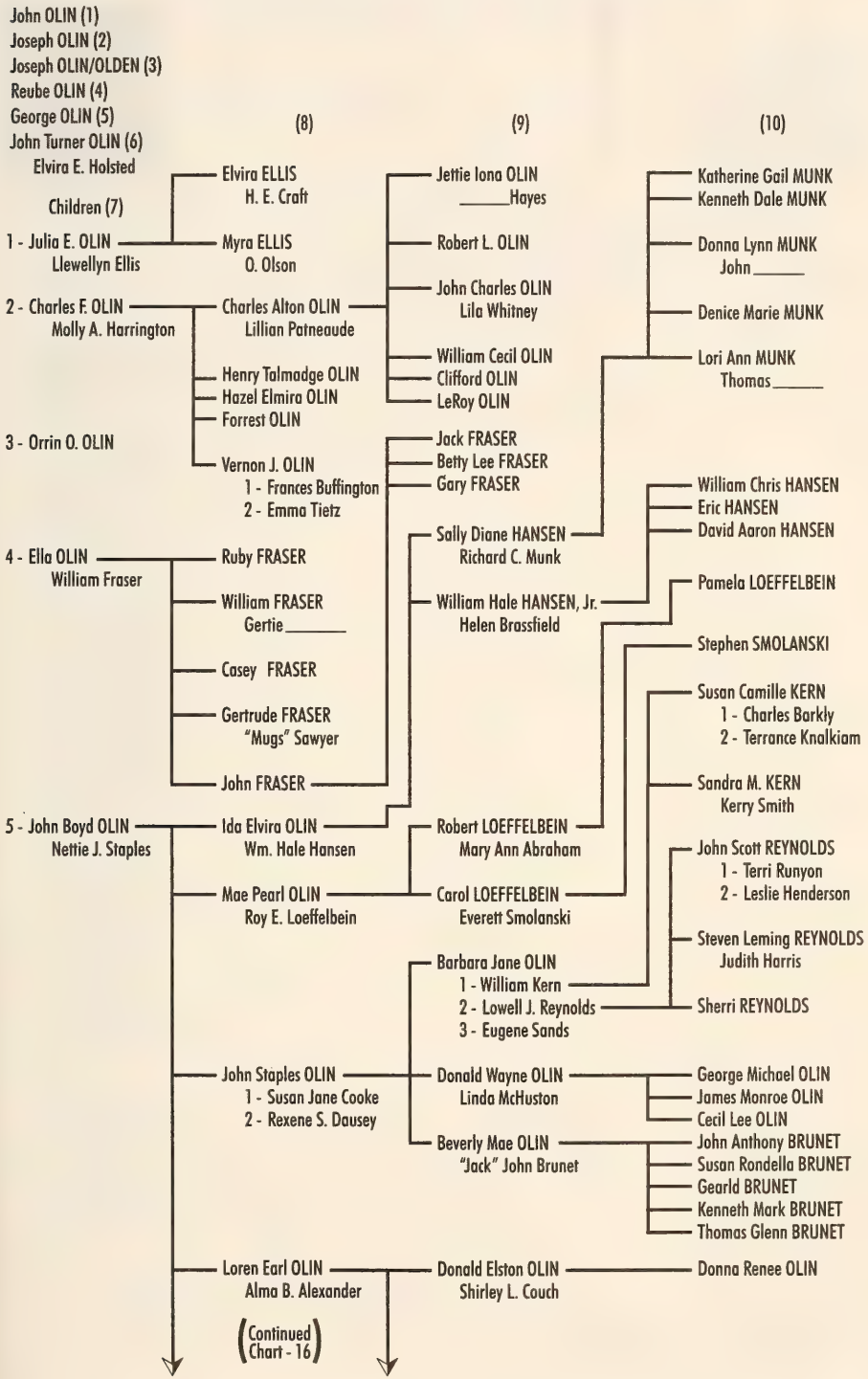
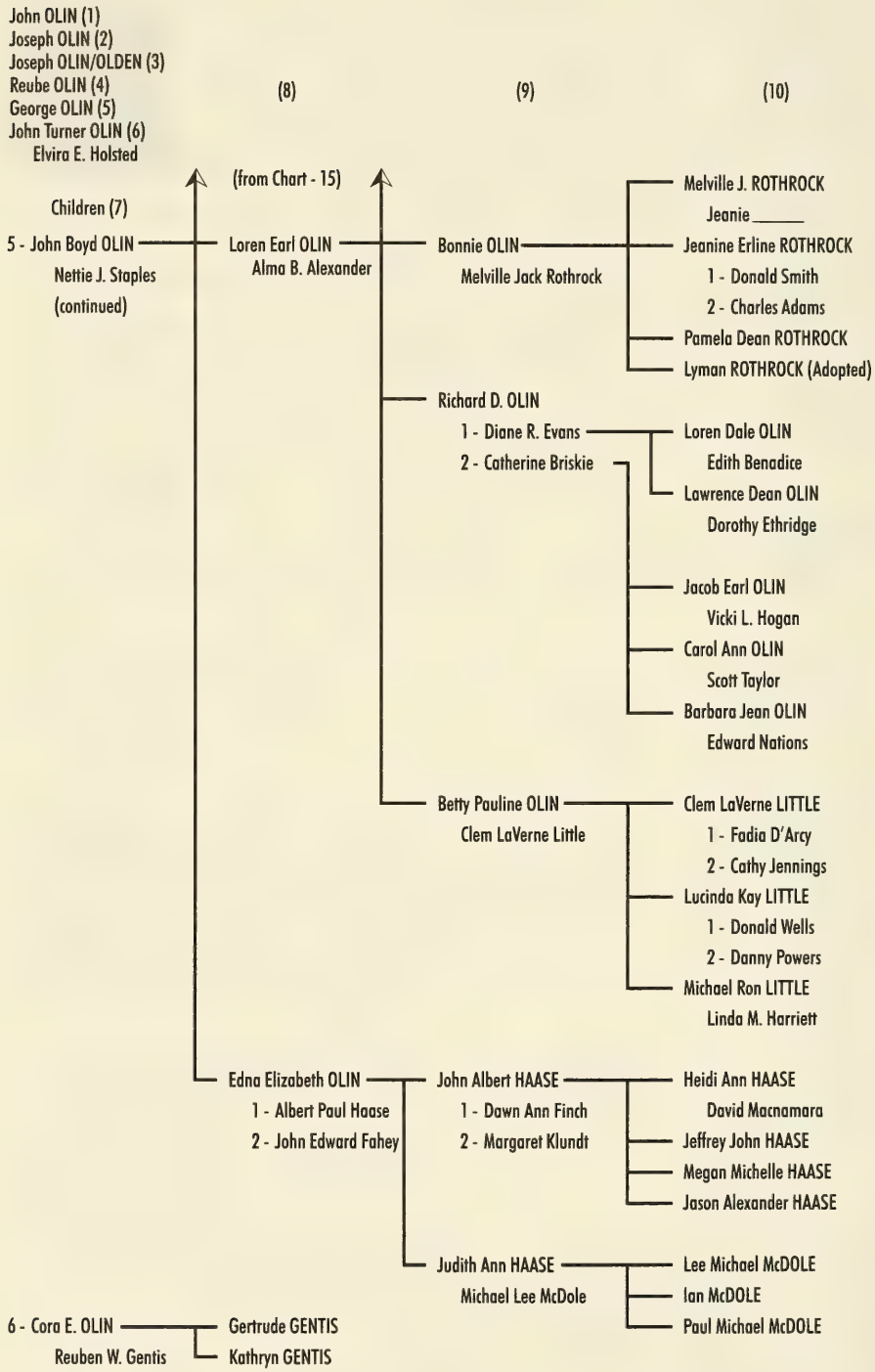


CHART - 16 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS



PART IX — George OLIN Family in Wisconsin and Washington

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Notes:

PART X

John OLIN Family of New York and Pennsylvania

"People will not look forward to posterity
Who never look backward to their
ancestors!"

—Burke

Chapter 36

Daughter, Jane, and Son, Hyde Olin

John and Ruth Olin's first of five known children was a daughter, Jane Olin, born 1830 in Town of Johnsburg, Warren County, NY. She began her schooling in Franklin, Delaware County, NY and finished at the Number 9 School in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA. She completed her grade school with honors and offered unheard of tutoring to local students who wished to improve their grades.

Jane Olin was a very religious girl, devoting many hours to the Jackson Baptist Church teaching children in the Sunday School; eventually she supervised all the Sunday classes and special classes on Wednesday nights.

Being the oldest child in the family, and a female, she assumed the role of "mother's assistant." Consequently, she matured early with a sense of importance and became a domineering factor in the OLIN Family. The young fellows of the neighborhood kept their distance, unwilling to be put down. If Jane was attracted to the opposite sex in any way, nothing materialized as far as a marriage. Jane died a "young old maid" at age 38 in 1868 from typhoid fever and was buried in the cemetery behind the Jackson Baptist Church.

HYDE OLIN

John and Ruth Olin's second child was Hyde Olin, born 1833 in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County, NY. He may have attended one year of schooling in Franklin, NY and finished his education in Jackson No. 9 School.

Hyde Olin was recognized for his outstanding ability and patience in training steers to work as oxen teams. It started when his father had him lead an ox to cultivate the family garden and the seven year old discovered that the ox was more to his liking than his overbearing sister. John taught Hyde the skills needed to drive a team of oxen and he surprised his father by keeping perfect control of them.

At that time, wild game was still plentiful. Farmers raised hogs for pork, sheep for mutton, but refrained from killing bull cattle for beef when venison was available. John gave his son two bull calves on his 8th birthday and suggested that Hyde train them to become a dependable and dignified oxen team. Hyde named them Abel and Cain, made each a rope halter, and lead them around the yard and into the roadways. He taught them basic voice commands like "Gee" for left and "Haw" for right turns. The training required patience on Hyde's part and frequent repetition of moves by the calves. When the calves were six months old, a neighbor was called over to castrate the bull calves, hence called steers. By the time Hyde was twelve years old, he was able to castrate bull calves as well as anyone in the county.

At a year old, the steers were yoked together and were used to pull light loads guided by Hyde's voice commands and a short switch. The loads became heavier as the steers grew older, larger, and stronger until they reached maturity at age three. Hyde Olin trained and sold 16 teams of oxen between the time he was 12 years old and his marriage in 1859. This venture was more like a hobby for Hyde, but a hobby that brought an average of $50 a team into the OLIN Family. Meanwhile, Hyde provided his father exceptionally good help clearing land, planting and harvesting crops. His father began using a horse team while Hyde continued using his oxen.

Hyde Olin became known as a woman chaser, making Saturday night trips to all corners of the Susquehanna County. Perhaps his ultimate goal was to find just the right girl for his future because he married, short, dark-haired, well-rounded Mariah Nicholas from Welsh Hill in southern Susquehanna County, PA, ca 1859. The newly married

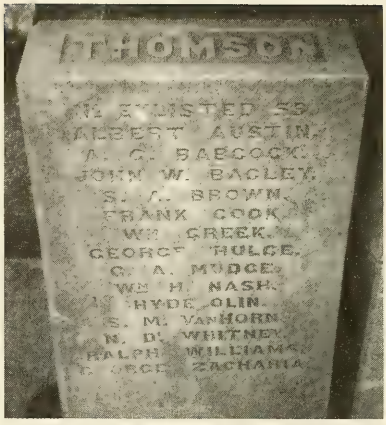
couple spent their first night of marriage in his parents' home on Slocum Hill where their friends and neighbors staged a "shirvaree." Hyde's father, John, became so enraged over the noise and disturbance of his night's rest, that he fired his shotgun at the participants. Needless to say revenge was taken against the older Olin.

Hyde and Mariah (Nicholas) Olin had two daughters: Hattie M. Olin, born 1860; and Adelia A. Olin, born 1863, both in Thompson, Susquehanna County, PA. The OLIN Family was struggling to survive on a small farm while the Union Army was struggling for survival during the early years of the War between the States. Hyde wanted desperately to accept the $200 inducement money to volunteer his services to the Union Army, but Mariah was against it, reminding him of his responsibilities to his wife and two small daughters. However, when Charles Nicholas, Mariah's cousin, offered Hyde $300 to substitute for him in the October, 1863 draft, Hyde could no longer refrain from going. His Civil War records have him listed as Charles Nicholas (Nichols), "Olin," not Hyde except for the National Archive Veterans Records that states, "Olin, Hyde, alias Nicholas, Charles." All descriptive data, date of birth, death, occupation, and other information is compatible to our Hyde Olin.

Hyde Olin was mustered in on October 29, 1863 for three years, at Scranton, PA and assigned to Company H, 104th Pennsylvania Infantry on January 9, 1864. All went well for Hyde/Charles until he became ill in September 1864 and was transferred to the 104th unorganized Battalion to serve out his time. Hyde Olin died the following month, October 31, 1864 in a hospital at Winchester, Virginia. Hyde had become ill at Bermuda Hundred during the offensive skirmishes of the Union Army around the siege of Richmond.

General Grant tried to take his army around General Lee's right flank to join up with General Butler at a place called Bermuda Hundred on the James River south of Petersburg. Grant and Butler failed to unite their armies east of Richmond thus giving General Lee time to strengthen his fortifications around Richmond.

At Winchester Hospital, Hyde Olin, like hundreds of other soldiers was diagnosed as having "phthisis", a disease of the lungs usually resulting in tuberculosis. Although, Hyde died wondering what was to become of his family, he died knowing that the south was losing the war and that the north was sensing a victory.



—Photos Courtesy of George O. Olin Family—

Civil War Monument in Montrose Square

Each slab of stone leaning at the base represents townships in Susquehanna Co. and lists names of volunteer or draftees.

The Thompson Township in Susquehanna County, PA was earlier spelled without the letter p. Hyde Olin, son of John and Ruth Olin is listed on the Thompson stone, the fifth name from the bottom.

Hyde Olin's body was shipped home to Susquehanna County, PA where he was buried in the OLIN Family plot behind the Jackson Baptist Church and the county honored him as one of many Civil War casualties by a monument in the park at Montrose, PA.

His wife, Mariah, and two daughters were taken into the homes of both parents until her second marriage, ca 1867, to William Crosier who had a thriving farm near Thompson, PA. The 1870 census lists him and Mariah as Crosiers and her two daughters as Hattie and Adelia Olin. The Crosier farm was worth $4,000 and their personal property was worth $1,000.

The oldest daughter of Hyde and Mariah Olin was Hattie M. Olin who married Crosby J. Moffatt (Moffat) in 1880. They made their home in Binghamton, Broome County, NY where they had three children who they raised to maturity. The Moffatt family was disciplined Baptist and the children were taught to excel in their endeavors and to chose a line of work they would enjoy day after day. Hattie Olin Moffatt died in 1918 and her husband, Crosby J. Moffatt

died in 1938, both are buried in the Floral Park Cemetery in Binghamton, NY.

Hattie and Crosby Moffatt's first of three children was Charles Burton "Burt" Moffatt, born 1882. He was a carpenter by trade who married Pauline Cobb, born 1884, in 1906 in Binghamton. Pauline was employed for most of her life and retired from a supervisory position at Columbia Protective Association in Binghamton. Both Pauline and Burt died in 1966 and are buried in the Floral Park Cemetery.

Burt and Pauline (Cobb) Moffatt had an only child, Lee H. Moffatt, born in 1907 in Binghamton. He worked as a clerk for many years for the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad. His first marriage was to Freda M. Wagner, a clerk in a telephone company, in 1930, which produced another only child, Carol Lee Moffatt born 1943 in Binghamton. Freda and her daughter, Carol left Binghamton to take up residence in the sunshine State of Arizona. Lee Moffatt married his second wife, Ethel, ca 1966. One year later, in 1967, Lee left NY State, traveled to Arizona, and remarried his first wife, Freda. Lee died 15 March 1975 and Freda still lives in Phoenix, AZ.

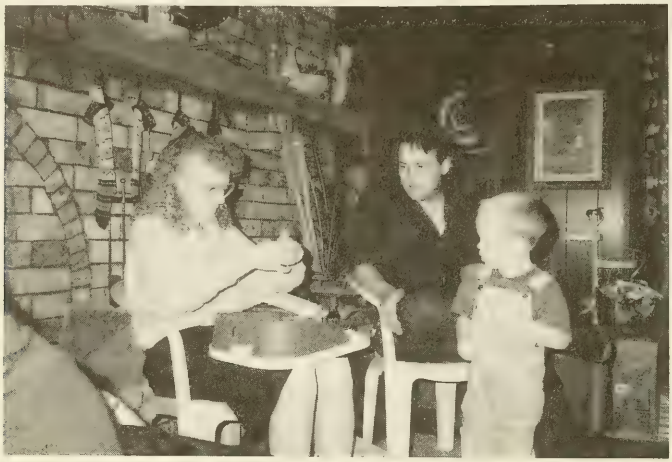
Lee and Freda Moffatt's daughter, Carol, married Jerry Haddox, 1964, in Phoenix, AZ. Jerry is the son of Derral and Maudie (Bridges) Haddox and works as an electrician. Carol assists in teaching music lessons. They have two sons: Michael Lee Haddox, who served in the United States Navy during the mid-1980s and Mark Edward Haddox, born 1969 in Coalinga, CA.

Michael, born 1965 in Phoenix, AZ, married Annette Y. Ware, born 1967 in Houston, Texas, daughter of William M. and Gladys (Brittain) Ware. The 1984 marriage of Michael and Annette resulted in three daughters, all born in Phoenix, AZ: Ashley Lynn, born 1987; Amber LeYvonne, born 1988 and Jessica Lorraine, born 1990.

Mark Haddox married Mary Jackson, 1993 in Las Vegas, NV. Mary was born in 1972 and had a son, Casey, born 1990. She is a Computer Operator. Mark and his brother are both truck drivers.

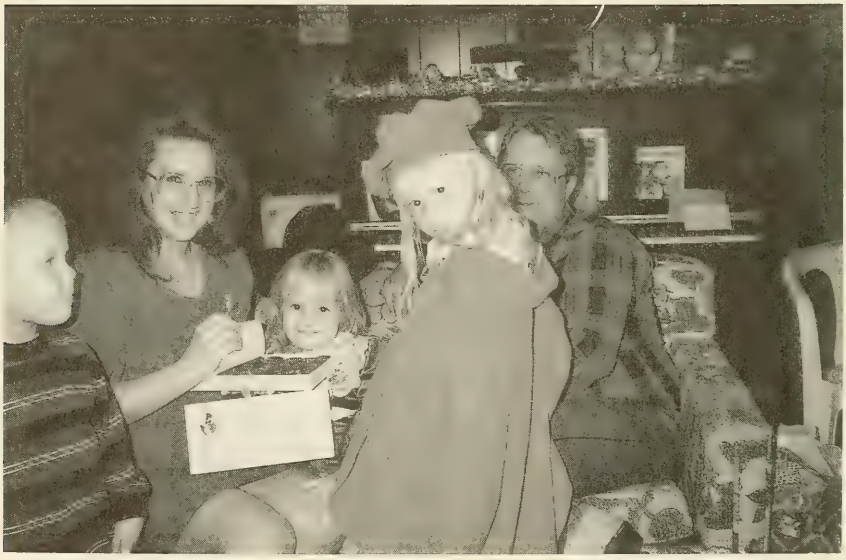
Hattie M. Olin and Crosby Moffatt's second child was Maude, born 1884, who married Charles H. Hakes, also born 1884. Charles was the son of Dr. Charles W. Hakes and Hattie A. Sanders of New Milford, Susquehanna County, PA. The tall, lanky plumber owned and operated a neighborhood plumbing service on the north side of Binghamton for over 50 years. The Hakes had no children and often made trips to

Brownsville, Texas to visit his brother, Lynn Hakes. Maude Moffatt Hakes died 1957 and Charles H. Hakes died 1963, both are buried in the Floral Park Cemetery.



Mark and Mary Haddox entertain their son, Casey, Christmas of 1994.

—Photos Courtesy of Carol Haddox—



1994 Christmas - a happy family opens a box of chocolates. Left to Right; Nephew Casey, Annette Ware Haddox, daughters: Jessie and Amber, and their father, Michael Haddox

—Photo Courtesy Carol Haddox

Three sweet, shy and smiling sisters of the Annette and Michael Haddox family. Left to Right: Ashley, Amber and Jessica Haddox.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

1956 OLIN Family Reunion held in Windsor Library, Windsor, Broome County, NY. Standing: David Earl Olin. Leon A. Lowe, Leona Ruland Olin, Nellie Clearwater Lowe, Donald E. and son Michael Olin, Pauline Cobb Moffatt, Charles "Burt" Moffatt, Emilia Delovich Olin with Glenn R. Olin's son, Gerry, Charles Hakes, George Omar Olin, Lois Marie Olin and Lucille Weeks Olin. Jean (Akiko) Olin with children Alisa and George, Eva May Conklin Olin and son Richard, William Olin and Diane Olin.

1958 OLIN Reunion held at the Windsor Library. Left to Right: Pauline Cobb Moffatt, Charles Hakes, and Charles "Burt" Moffatt.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

Hattie M. Olin and Crosby J. Moffatt's youngest child was William H. Moffatt, born 1888. He graduated from dental college ca 1912. Dr. Moffatt established his own dental practice on upper Chenango Street in Binghamton, NY. William Moffatt married Ina Goodspeed, born 1889 who worked as a clerk for Gleason and Sons located at 697 Chenango Street, Binghamton. Dr. William and Ina Moffatt had no children. He died in 1949 and Ina died in 1974, both are buried in Floral Park Cemetery.

Hyde and Mariah (Nicholas) Olin's other child, Adelia Olin married Charles N. Lewis on New Years Day, 1884, in Kirkwood, Broome County, NY. Charles was a salesman, originally from Lestershire (now known as Johnson City) Broome County, NY. After a few years of residing in Binghamton, Charles Lewis relocated his family to Pulaski, Oswego County, NY. He died in 1909. Information on the Lewis children is sketchy and speculative. It appears that Adelia and Charles Lewis had three sons: (1) LaVerne/Vernon/Verne Lewis, the oldest, who may have stayed in Binghamton, not moving to Oswego County. In 1902 he was working as a laborer and possibly married to a woman named Phoebe. LaVerne probably died ca 1930 as Phoebe Lewis was listed in the Binghamton City Directory as being a widow, living alone during the last half of the 1930s and well into the 1940s. (2)

Leo/Leonard C. Lewis, possibly worked as stenographer in Binghamton, married with up to five children, names unknown. (3) Louis Lewis with no information beyond his name. Adelia Olin Lewis died 1947 in Palermo, Oswego County, NY. She had lived earlier in Sandy Creek, Oswego County.

Crosby Moffatt and his Wagon Repair Shop
in Hallstead, Susquehanna County, PA, 1905.

Chapter 37

Son, Earl Olin, with Another Carpenter Connection

John and Ruth (Culver) Olin's third child was Earl Olin, born 1838 while this OLIN Family was living in Franklin, Delaware County, NY. Two years later, he and his parents and sister, Jane and brother, Hyde, moved to Jackson Township, Susquehanna County, PA. Upon their arrival, 1840, the OLIN Family was received into the home of the Croiser family, Ruth's cousin. Within a few weeks, John found considerable acreage of uncleared land with an abandoned log cabin. Ruth and their children tolerated the rigors of living in the old cabin until John, with help from his neighbors, built a two-story, four-room, framed house. The Olins made the so-called worthless property into a profitable and welcoming farm on Slocum Hill Road, east of Jackson Village.

Earl Olin followed right behind Jane and Hyde in Jackson #9 School. One topic of discussion in school was determination. The school teacher insisted that her students could be anyone or do anything within their own capabilities if they were determined to do so.

Unfortunately or fortunately, according to your point of view, when Earl was 12 years old, he experienced a lesson in determination within nature's world.

Two mill ponds were located at the foot of Slocum Hill on the Tunkhannock Creek, one used for a sawmill operation, and the other abandoned with trees and brush growing around it provided a natural screen for young, male "skinny dippers." One Saturday afternoon, Earl stepped on a hard, smooth surface in the mud on the bottom of the pond. It moved, causing him to feel around it with his big toe. Suddenly something bit and hung onto his toe. He tried to shake it loose in the water but instead of relaxing its grip, it clamped down harder than ever. Earl stumbled out of the pond to discover his tormentor to be a snapping turtle. He tried to beat it off with a stick which only provoked the snapper to clamp harder. Earl rolled around

on the ground, yelling for help. One of the bigger boys used his jackknife to cut off the turtle's head. Even then the head clung on to Earl's toe until the turtle's mouth was pried open. Everyone agreed that the turtle possessed "determination" and would have succeeded in his quest for food if he had not lost his head.

Earl Olin became a local favorite with the young ladies, particularly at pie or box socials. As many as a half-dozen girls would tell him ahead of time which was their special pie or box of food that they would enjoy sharing with him if he were to be the successful bidder. Whichever young lady that Earl favored blushingly considered it an honor to be seen with Earl for the rest of the evening.

A rumor circulated throughout eastern Susquehanna County that Earl Olin had kissed more young ladies than all the rest of the young fellows combined. Although warned of his reputation, most girls were delighted with his attention. During late fall corn husking bees, Earl gave the host's son a couple of pennies to "salt" or mix in a few ears of red corn that had a red cob after shelling of the corn kernels. He would know where the red corn was hidden and made it a point to take up his station there. The object of this game: if a lucky fellow had a red ear of corn it entitled him to kiss the girl of his choice. Needless to say, all girls were his choices until he met Miss Abigail Tingley Carpenter.

Referring again to the Carpenter ancestry beginning with William, born 1605 outside London, England; he emigrated to the Colonies in North America and eventually settled in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, close to the border of Rhode Island. One of his sons, William, born 1631, and his descendants are connected to the OLIN Family.

This William Carpenter married first, in 1651, Priscilla Bennett, who died the same day she gave birth to their fourth child. His second marriage to Miriam Searles in 1663, resulted in 10 more children. Miriam lived to be 93 years old, surviving William who died at age 62. William was the Town Clerk in Rehoboth, MA for 34 years, a surveyor, very active in political and church affairs, and particularly noted for his superior penmanship. William and Miriam's sixth child was Obadiah, born 1677, who married Deliverance Preston, 1703, daughter of the fanatical religious Preston family.

Obadiah and Deliverance, had eight children of which their second son, Obadiah, born 1707, at Attleboro, MA, married his first cousin,

Bethiah (Carpenter) after the untimely death of her husband, Benjamin Lyons. Bethiah and Obadiah were consistent participants in their church and were buried side by side in the old Attleboro Cemetery, their graves are marked by engraved slate stones under a large fir tree. They had ten children and continued the Carpenter tradition of naming one of their sons Obadiah.

This Obadiah Carpenter was born, 1742, in Attleboro, MA and married Amy or Mercy Lee in Attleboro, 1766. He served his fellow countrymen in the war against the English by enlisting on five different occasions, sometimes as a private and other times as a sergeant. It seems that he was always there when needed during the Boston, NY, and Rhode Island alarms.

When cessation of hostilities was announced by George Washington's General Orders on April 11, 1783, the people of Massachusetts and Rhode Island hailed the announcement joyously. Their soldier citizens could return to their homes to share the future with their families. Great Britain had tested the strength and valor of the "Yankees," and found them greater than supposed. "Yankee Doodle," the song of contempt composed by a Tory officer found a tune that inspired Americans with a patriotic enthusiasm that still enthralls us today.

Obadiah Carpenter survived the Revolutionary War and had the privilege of seeing other parts of America first hand. Restless, along with other comrades, neighbors, and family, he packed his goods on three ox carts to move his family across hills and streams to Susquehanna County, PA in 1785. His family, including two sons, Elias and Obadiah, Jr. were among the earliest to settle in Hartford. In 1803, Obadiah, Sr. was one of the first deacons elected in the Congregational Church, serving just seven years before his death in 1810. His wife, Amy or Mercy, died four years later.

Their move to Pennsylvania was difficult for the family. Second son, Jesse, and daughter, Amy, died just before the trip. Another daughter, an infant, less than a year old died at Hartford, probably as a result of exposure to the elements. Their youngest son, Louis, was born in 1792 in Hartford.

Elias, Obadiah, Jr. and Ama survived to make their place in the world. Elias, born 1773, married Polly Hawley, a local girl, who helped him work their Hartford farm until he died in 1850. Obadiah,

Jr., born 1767, returned to Attleboro, Massachusetts to marry his childhood sweetheart, Mary Tyler and bring her back to his farm in Hartford.

Ama, born 1780, who was only four years old on the trip to Pennsylvania, married Orlen Capron, in Hartford, Susquehanna County. Ama was a sister to the Obadiah Carpenter, born 1767, grandfather of Abigail T. Carpenter who married Earl Olin. At this point, we should note the addition of the Capron and Olin lines to the Carpenter line. The ancestors and descendants of Orlen Capron are well documented and Caprons were neighbors of the Carpenters in Hartford and perhaps even in Attleboro, MA. Caprons, Carpenters and Olins are still living in Susquehanna County, PA. The Tingley family was another neighboring family to the predominately Welsh and English families who intermarried with the OLIN Family. The Tingleys have maintained excellent documentation of their family through up-to-date printing of their history.

Obadiah, Jr. and Mary Tyler raised 12 children and continued the Carpenter family tradition with an Obadiah, only this time adding a middle name, Lee, the maiden name of Obadiah's mother. Obadiah Lee, born 1808-09, married a neighbor, Eliza I. Tingley, daughter of Thomas and Betsey (Ingraham) Tingley. Although they were the same age, his death in 1867 preceded hers by 25 years.

The marriage of Obadiah Lee Carpenter and Eliza Ingraham Tingley resulted in four children of which only two daughters survived to a marriageable age, thus ending the continuous generations of the given name "Obadiah" in this branch of Carpenters. However, the name "Lee" gained in popularity.

Of the two daughters, Sophia Adelia Carpenter married Oliver P. Hadsel in 1866 and Abigail Tingley Carpenter, born 18 December 1839, married Earl Olin 4 January 1861 in Ararat, Susquehanna County, PA.

Beginning in 1861 and continuing for the next 13 years, Earl and Abbie Olin purchased and sold at least seven parcels of land in the Townships of Ararat and Thompson. Some were complete with buildings which they rented out to less fortunate families. It was in 1873, that Asahel A. Lowe bought a 12-acre parcel from Earl and Abbie Olin.

The Earl Olin's first home was on top of Slocum Hill next to Jackson #9 School. Soon after the Civil War they moved down on the

creek road toward North Jackson. Earl and Abbie (Carpenter) Olin were blessed with two children: a son, Orva Lee Olin, born 1864, and a daughter, Edna J. Olin, born 1870, both in the Township of Jackson. Orva became a master carpenter, married first, Ida Corey, and second, Nettie Estabrook. Edna married Luther L. Burdick and moved to Lackawanna County, PA.

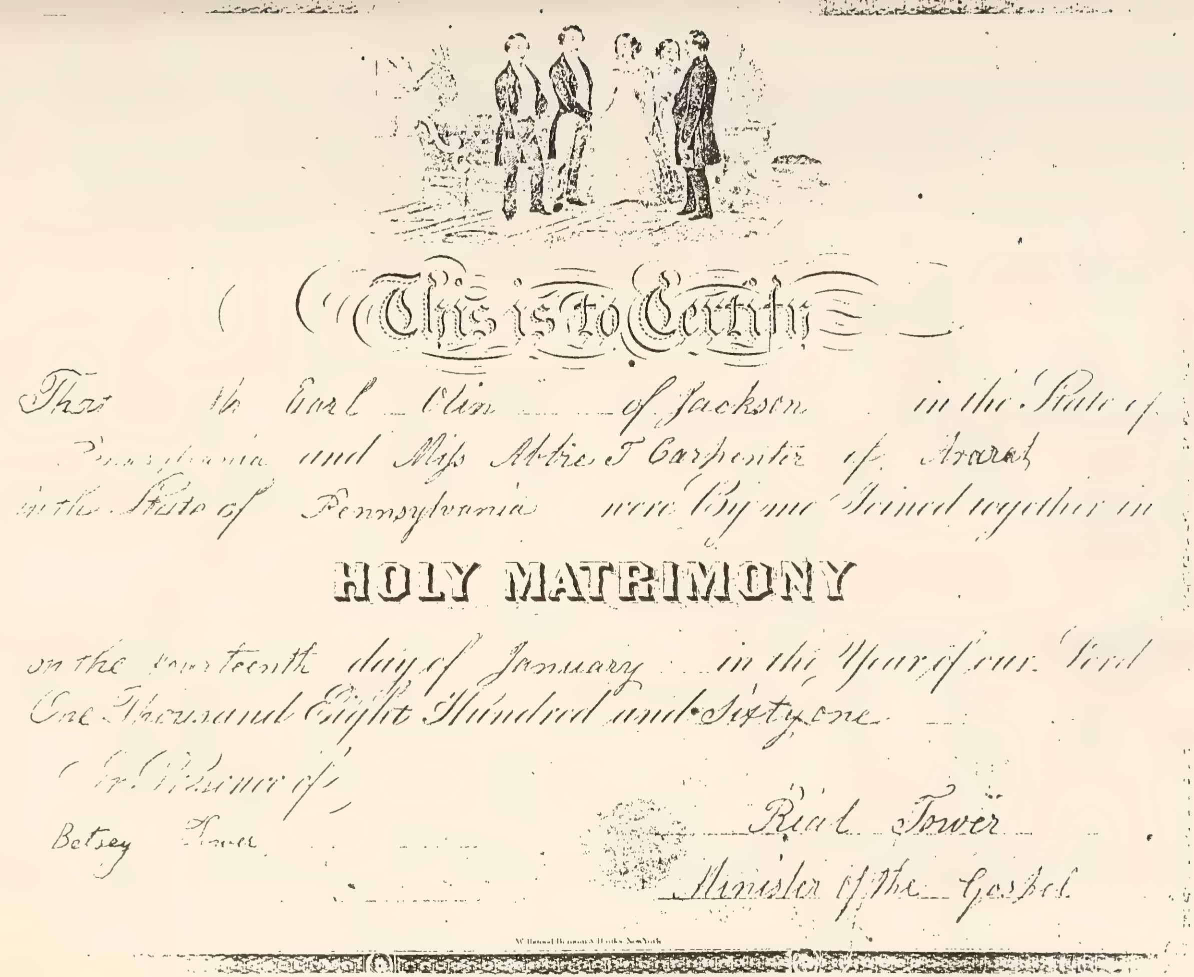
Abbie Olin took her parents into her home shortly before the death of her father, who died of typhoid fever. Her husband of only 14 short years died 5 September 1875 leaving her with two children to raise.

Earl Olin, son of John and Ruth Culver Olin, with his wife Abigail Tingley Carpenter Olin and their son, Orva Lee Olin in 1868.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. OLIN Family

Eleven-year-old Orva Lee Olin was apprenticed out the following year to learn the carpentry trade. Orva's father left his home farm to Orva when he became of age and Earl also left $523.25 in personal assets to Abbie who retained control over the other properties. Abbie married again to Mr. Potter ca 1876.

Orva Lee Olin completed his carpentry apprenticeship and married Ida Corey in the same year, 1884. Orva and Ida Olin signed over the home farm deed of his inheritance to his mother and stepfather. The Potters later moved to Thompson where Abbie outlived her second husband. Abbie Carpenter Olin Potter died in 1913 at age 73 and is buried in the Jackson Baptist Cemetery where both of her husbands are buried.



This is to Certify

That the Earl Olin of Jackson in the State of Pennsylvania and Miss Abbie J Carpenter of Ararat in the State of Pennsylvania were By me Joined together in

HOLY MATRIMONY

on the fourteenth day of January in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty one.

In Presence of

Betsey [illegible]

Reul Tower

Minister of the Gospel

Earl Olin, son of Ruth and John Olin, died young, at only 37 years old, in the prime of his life. However, he is credited with survival of the OLIN Surname in this branch of the OLIN Family. John and Ruth Olin's other children did not pass on the surname, through no fault of their own. Jane was unmarried. Hyde left two daughters and Omar left three daughters who married taking on a different surname. Irene's marriage to Asahel Lowe added another surname family. Only Earl, who had a son, Orva Lee Olin, as well as a daughter, provided the link in the chain of direct OLIN Surname descendants. Earl Olin, unknowingly became the progenitor of the John and Ruth branch of Reuben OLIN(4) Family.

Chapter 38

Daughter, Irene Olin's Marriage to Ashael (Card) Lowe

John and Ruth (Culver) Olin's second daughter was Irene Olin, born 8 July 1841 or 43 in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA. She was named Irene, in honor of Ruth's mother, Irene, and an aunt, Irene Burrows, both back in Windham County, VT. Irene Olin married Asahel Albert Lowe in 1863 at her parents' home on Slocum Hill Road in Jackson Township. Both had attended the #9 School in Jackson Township, Asahel finished a few years earlier than Irene. The Olins and the Lowes respected each other and were good neighbors.

Asahel Albert Lowe, born 6 January 1839, in Gibson, Susquehanna County, PA was actually born Asahel Albert Card, the son of Parnier and Betsey L. (Woodard) Card. Parnier deserted Betsey before Asahel's birth. Betsey, barely able to support herself, let alone a new-born baby, offered her son for adoption. Nicholas and Belinda (Belcher) Lowe adopted little Asahel and raised him as one of their own children. A few years later, Betsey married a Mr. Roper. The Roper family became good friends with Asahel's adoptive parents. Betsey wrote many touching letters to her natural son, Asahel, for many years.

After their marriage, Irene and Asahel Lowe bought a small farm on the East Jackson Road near the junction of the Slocum Hill Road, about equal distance to the Villages of Thompson, Gelatt and Jackson. They avoided the slightly closer trip to Jackson in favor of the more level roads to either Thompson or Gelatt. In 1873, Asahel purchased another 12 acres of excellent, productive land about half-mile from their home from Earl and Abby T. Olin, Irene's brother.

Meanwhile the Irene and Asahel Lowe family was multiplying with at least eight births: John Franklin Lowe, born 6 March 1864 in Thompson; Edward Albert Lowe, born 26 June 1865 in Gibson; Willie A. Lowe, born 13 November 1867 and died 25 November, 1867 in Gibson; Charles Olin Lowe, born 12 March 1874 in Jackson; Rose Lucinda Lowe, born 24 January 1877 in Jackson; Leon A. Lowe, born

21 May 1885 in East Jackson; and unnamed twins who died as infants.

John Franklin Lowe, the oldest child,was the first to leave home and become a successful farmer in Susquehanna County, PA. Edward Albert Lowe tried a sales career, failed and became owner/operator of sawmills in New York State. Charles Olin Lowe chose to remain for the most part in Susquehanna County near his parents. Rose Lucinda Lowe married a local farmer and died at an early age. Leon A. Lowe worked in various sawmills in New York State before settling down on a dairy farm.

Asahel Lowe was not a dependable family provider. Like many of the other so-called farmers in the county, his farm was very small. His one or two cows, a few sheep, pigs and chickens, plus his vegetable garden provided the nourishment for a growing family but no luxuries of any kind. Even when he was fortunate to get work by the hour for his neighbors, they generally paid him in wood or produce. He received very little cash for his effort, but what little he could purchase from either Wheeler's or Walker's Store in Gelatt was always paid on time.

Shortly after the birth of Rose in 1877, Asahel decided to find a cash-paying job, even if it meant leaving his home for a while. He answered an ad for an investigator of a Cincinnati, Ohio Detective Agency, but was turned down. Finally in 1882, he took a job in the Elmira, Chemung County, NY, train yards as a brakeman on a gravel train for $1.70 a day, two train runs a day, six days a week. He paid $3.00 a week for room and board. It was a good job and he was sending money home although he was unable to visit his family. In August, he was still working on the railroad when he began to hear rumors that his wife, Irene, was "fooling around." Irene's letter responding to his letter of questions was "My dear, my lips have not touched another man's since you left" Nevertheless, Asahel returned home before winter set in, glad to be back in the old routine of daily chores, banking the house, and cutting fire wood for the winter.

Asahel was skillful in laying up stone walls for property boundaries or pasture confinement. Not all farmers had the knack of taking ordinary field stones, and using no mortar, build a four-foot high wall that would withstand frost upheaval and keep it in a straight line. Miles and miles of stone walls are still standing in Susquehanna County, thanks to Asahel Lowe's efforts. His only horse, "Mack" was used to

haul a stone boat used not only for stones, but also for block fire wood, manure from the barn, to bring in apples or potatoes, to cultivate his garden, or to pull his white covered buggy.

In August, 1896, he and Irene attended the funeral for Gladys Stone and on their return, stopped to visit her brother, Omar Olin, on Slocum Hill. They picked up their book *The OLIN Family Record* written by C. C. Olin and published in 1893. The $6.00 book was a big disappointment to the Olin kinfolk of Susquehana County, PA, as there appeared to be no family connection.

Irene Olin Lowe began experiencing serious health problems in 1896, which led to convulsions and tongue biting. Asahel began a daily routine of caring for his bedridden wife's needs in the morning and doing the household cooking, washing, and cleaning, was well as small farm chores in the afternoon. As their mother's condition worsened, sons Charles and Leon would pitch in to help their father. But daughter, Rose, provided her mother with the best help, even through her pregnancy for a daughter, Elma Ruth, born in February, 1897. Rose and John Stockwell lived in Lanesboro, Susquehanna County, PA and they brought Mother Lowe to their home after the birth of Elma. It was a tremendous relief for Asahel and his sons, knowing that Irene would be receiving proper care. However, Rose became so ill herself that she sent her mother back home by wagon. Relatives and neighbors pitched in to help Asahel through his troubles. His daughter, Rose, died in 1899. The following year, on 7th of October, 1900, Irene Olin Lowe died and was buried in the East Jackson Cemetery.

Asahel was devastated over the loss of his lifetime companion. What little assets he had were used for Irene's medication and doctor's bills. He turned his farm over to Charles and his wife, Mary, who were undergoing a volat ile marriage. They had a daughter, Florence Irene Lowe, born 1896 in Jackson, and another daughter, Bertha Olive, born 1902 in Jackson. Mary often left her home in Jackson, sometimes taking Florence with her, to visit and enjoy the social world surrounding her Welton family living in Nineveh, Broome County, NY. After a reasonable period of time, Charles would go after her and bring her back to Jackson, but not for long. She would take off again. Asahel began complaining to his son, Edward, about the unrelenting exposure to Charles and Mary's problems. Edward invited his father north to New York State to live and work at his convenience with him. By

now, Edward had sawmills of his own near Oneonta, Otsego County, NY and was working others in Delaware County. Asahel accepted the offer and kept busy stacking lumber, working the garden, and, at times, filling in for the night watchman at the mill.

Asahel relaxed and enjoyed his last years living in Edward's home at Schenevus, Otsego County. He took up the old art of whittling chains of wooden links, toys (a toy walking plow is still in the Lowe family), and wooden puzzles. He learned to curtail his cussing to near-cussing such as "Dad blame it" or "Gol darn it." One of his favorite sayings about the changes in the weather was:

Whether the weather be cold,
Whether the weather be hot,
We must weather the weather,
Whatever the weather,
Whether we like it or not,

Asahel Albert Lowe died 19 December 1912 in his son, Edward A. Lowe's home in Schenevus, NY and was buried beside his wife, Irene Olin, in the East Jackson Cemetery.

—Photo Courtesy of Thelma Benson Tiedemann

Omar O. Olin built this house ca 1885 on the site of the smaller house his father built the second year in Pennsylvania, 1841. The former house was moved intact across the Slocum Hill Road to serve as a blacksmith and tool shed. Omar and Susan Althea relax on their front porch while a neighbor, William Pickering, pays the Olins a visit.

Chapter 39

Son, Omar Olin, The Pride of Susquehanna County, PA

John and Ruth (Culver) Olin's youngest child of five, Omar Olin, born 1845 in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA received his full eight years of grade school in the Jackson #9 School on the top of Slocum Hill. The serious 5' 7" youth elected to remain at home, accepting his father's guidance in the most profitable ways to increase a standard of living: the combined use of hard work and common sense.

During the decades of 1850 through 1980, Europe began depending on the products produced by the America farmer. With the introduction of rail systems through Susquehanna County, farmers became more prosperous and increased productions. The Olins continued to clear more of their acres for crops and pastures. They sent tubs of salted butter and bushels of potatoes and apples to market on the East Coast. After the Civil War, Omar and his father ventured into a cattle breeding program that increased milk production enabling them to stop the long process of making butter at home in favor of hauling their raw milk by wagon to the new milk processing creamery at Thompson. The North/South, Delaware Hudson Railroad that serviced the creamery also brought lime and fertilizer to progressive farmers. The Olins used these liberally and were noted for the excellent quality and quantity of their clover hay. They were able to increase potato production from five bushels for each bushel planted to well over 20 bushels. By the turn of the century, however, potato farming in Susquehanna County failed due to blight, scabs and the potato bug.

As Omar took over the Olin Homestead from his aging father, he added more trees to their apple and pear orchards. Omar built an underground, year-round, storage facility for the fruit, thus enabling him to ship his fruit any time of the year. But Omar's real farming success was attributed to his breeding and raising fancy standard breeds. He purchased a good thoroughbred stallion for his ordinary mares to improve the local light harness horses, which resulted in a crossbreed, commonly called "Roadsters" which were exceptionally fast with light buggies on the roads. Some of his horses were trained as trotters by their owners. Omar attributed his farming success to the "5 Gs: GRIT - GUTS - GUMPTION - GRACE and GOD."

—Photo Courtesy of Thelma Benson Tiedemann—

Omar O. Olin, son of John and Ruth (Culver) Olin,
and his wife, Susan Althea Bloxham Olin, ca 1875.

Omar lost one of his brothers, Hyde, during the War Between the States and his oldest sister, Jane, died in 1868, one year before his marriage to Althea Susan Bloxham on 18th of February 1869. Althea was born 1842 in England, the daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Bloxham who settled in the Township of Ararat, Susquehanna County, PA. After his marriage to Althea, Omar made a deal with his father to purchase the OLIN Farm and to allow his parents to remain there for the rest of their lives.

In 1873, Omar and Althea Olin had their first child, Lizzie, who died three years later from scarlet fever. Omar's other brother, Earl, died in June, 1875, three months before the birth of another daughter, Carrie M., born September 1875. Omar's mother died in 1876. Another daughter, Daisy A., was born in 1878. Omar's father, John Olin, died in 1882 and Omar and Althea had another daughter, Minnie B., born 1884.

Through all the sorrows of death and joys of births, Omar kept a good sense of humor. all of his children were girls, not particularly qualified for manual farm help, although they did do a fair share of it. Omar needed to hire day help; Some were dependable and others were questionable. He would warn his neighbors, "Never hire a hand who wears lace-up boots, a broad brim hat, and smokes a pipe. You'll get little work from him, between re-tying his boots, chasing his hat, and filling his pipe."

Omar and Althea, blessed with good financial times, decided to build themselves a new house. Althea kept everyone excited as she

—Photo Courtesy of Thelma Benson Tiedemann

Group photo taken in 1895 at the home of Omar and Althea Olin on Slocum Hill Road Jackson, PA. Rear — Left to Right: Daisy Olin; her mother, Althea Bloxham Olin; Carrie Olin; her father, Omar O. Olin; and young Minnie Olin. The two boys are Earl and George Olin, sons of Orva and Ida Corey Olin. Orva is Omar's nephew.

described her ideas. She specifically insisted that the house have a full width porch across the front. The porch would have a swing, flower boxes, and a trellis for her climbing vines. She got the porch just the way she wanted. Omar added a long wood shed to the two story, six-room, framed house. The old house built by his father was moved across the road to serve as a tool and repair shed for the farm. Soon after, Omar built a new, two-story, basement barn up the road from the new house.

Politically, Omar was a Republican, but boasted of voting for the best man, Republican or not. He served many years on the Jackson School District Board, and both he and Althea took an active role in the Baptist Church in Jackson.

Omar thought that he was prepared for any additional deaths in the family, not suspecting that his own wife, Althea, would die so soon at age 55 in 1897. None of the three daughters were married when their mother died. Minnie, the youngest, was just 13 years old and assumed the responsibility of taking care of her father as her sisters left home to live with their husbands.

CARRIE M. OLIN

The oldest daughter, Carrie M. Olin, left home in 1899 to work as a housekeeper for the Dever Peck family in Dunmore, PA. She returned home to Jackson to marry Colonel Frank Benson in 1902; at Windsor, NY.

Carrie and Daisy Olin, daughters of Omar and Althea Olin. Note Carrie's colorful dress and Daisy's colorful stockings with her high button shoes. ca 1881

—Photo Courtesy of Thelma Tiedemann

They made their home in Susquehanna, PA. Colonel Benson was a widower. His first wife, Harriet M. Hacker, had died three weeks after the birth of a son, Wayne E. Benson, born 7 April 1884 in Scranton, PA. The Bensons had two daughters. The first was Corinne A. Benson, born 1905 who married Francis E. Clark.

Carrie Olin about 1900 before her marriage to Colonel Frank Benson.

—Photo Courtesy of Thelma Tiedeman

The childless Clarks made their home in fly Creek, near Cooperstown, NY. Francis Clark owned and operated a general store in Cooperstown. He died in 1974 and Corinne Benson Clark died in 1991. Both are buried in the Fly Creek Cemetery.

Carrie and Colonel Benson's other daughter, Thelma E. Benson, born 1909 in Susquehanna received her degree for teaching in 1929 from the State Teachers College in Mansfield, PA. The two sisters often spoke about their grandfather, Omar Olin. It seems that he drove his buggy once a month to visit his daughter, Carrie Benson, and his granddaughters in Susquehanna. He would come into the kitchen with a burlap bag full of vegetables, apples, or whatever from his farm. After he emptied the bag, he teasingly threatened to take the two little girls home with him in the burlap bag. The girls would hide behind their mother's skirts until Grandpa pulled two sticks of cinnamon candy from his pockets.

Thelma Benson never did teach school. Upon graduation, a girl friend convinced Thelma to go home with her to Narrowsburg, Sullivan County, NY. The Catskill/Pocono Mountains summer resort season was in full bloom. Waitresses were in demand and the wages plus tips were very good, so Thelma decided to work through the summer as a waitress. It wasn't long before a particularly handsome fellow made it known that he wanted only Thelma to be his waitress. He often waited half an hour or more just to be sure that she would have a table empty for him. Thelma E. Benson and William Tiedemann said their "I dos" in 1930 at Susquehanna, PA.

William D. Tiedemann, born 1904 in Brooklyn, NY, son of Martin William and Emma (Alpers) Tiedemann, German immigrants, worked for the United States Postal Department.

—Photos Courtesy of Thelma Benson Tiedeman—

Corinne and Thelma Benson ca 1912, daughters of Colonel and Carrie Benson Olin.

Corinne Benson Clark and Thelma Benson Tiedemann 30 years later ca 1942.

William and Thelma Tiedemann had two daughters: Joan Anita Tiedemann, born 1931; and Carol Audrey Tiedemann, born 1937, both in Narrowsburg, NY. Joan graduated from the Narrowsburg High School in 1949 and left soon for New York City. She was looking forward to a life of a good paying job and a little glamour. She found a job as a secretary for an insurance company until her marriage in 1950 to James H. Hundt in Glendale, NY, a suburb of New York City. James (Jim) and Joan worked side-by-side in an auto parts supply store. Meanwhile, Jim was teaching himself the repair, design, and making of jewelry, first as a hobby; and he later, made it a full-time business until he retired.

James and Joan Hundt live in Massapequa, Long Island, NY and had two children: Robert Hundt, born 1952 in Glendale, NY and died 1990 in Massapequa, NY; and Lucinda J. Hundt, born 1953 in Glendale who married John Robinson in 1973 at Massapequa. Lucinda and John Robinson have a daughter, Jocelyn L. Robinson, born 1978 in Massapequa, NY.

William and Thelma (Benson) Tiedemann's other daughter, Carol Audrey Tiedemann, also graduated from the Narrowsburg High School. She continued her education by attending the Mount Sinai Nursing School in New York City. She is a Registered Nurse and presently works as the Nursing Secretary for Highland Physicians in Narrowsburg. Carol met her husband-to-be in New York City, and married there in 1958. She married Bernard Creamer, born 1934 in New York City, the grandson of Irish immigrants. Carol Tiedemann Creamer wrote this account of her husband and their children in March, 1995.

> "My Husband, Bernard Creamer, worked in the offices of various shipping companies in the Battery area of downtown New York City. He had no further education beyond high school. We moved around as our family increased in size and went where our friends and apartments were. Later we moved to affordable houses close enough to New York City for Bernie to commute. It was that commute and a look around at the changing neighborhoods that led us to return to my home town of Narrowsburg; a conscious lifestyle choice of where we wanted to live and raise our family.
>
> Our daughters, Susan E. Creamer, born 1960 in Glendale, NY and Debra L. Creamer, born 1962 in Englewood, NJ, went to Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY where they both met their husbands-to-be. In fact, Susan married Robert Amenta at the chapel of the college in 1983. Susan has a BS Degree in Languages; and after she graduated, worked for a small

international company that imported and exported goods with South America. Her husband, Robert, has a BS Degree in Chemistry working for a time as a chemist for a small company compounding paints so that they would fire true colors for McDonald's glasses, Normal Rockwell mugs and collectors' edition plates. Later he went to the Becton Dickison Labs where he formulated lab tests for analysis machines. But his true love was computers, so he went nights for his Masters Degree in Programming. Robert became a Programmer for Volvo Leasing and is currently employed as a Programmer for NYNEX, New York/New England & Future Communications Telephone company headquartered in New York City. Susan also received advanced training with computers while working for Volvo International. Robert and Susan Amenta have two children: Julianne H. and Marissa M. Amenta. Because of a growing family, Susan works part time for the Rockland Legal Aid as their bookkeeper and computer specialist.

— Photos Courtesy of George O. Olin Family —

Photo, ca 1942 of Carrie and Colonel Benson, their two daughters, Corinne Benson Clark and Thelma Benson Tiedemann and Thelma's two daughters, Joan & Carol Tiedemann.

Corinne Benson Clark poses with her cousins Nellie and Leon Lowe at the 1958 OLIN Family Reunion in Windsor, NY.

Debra Creamer earned her BA Degree in English and worked for awhile for Companion Life Insurance. She married John DiFranco, 1987 in Peabody, MA. He has a BS Degree in

Mathematics and is working on his Masters Degree in Computers. He has worked as a programmer for Parker Brothers and is currently working as a Data Base Administrator for Converse. He is also a busy, certified, basketball Referee. Debra gave up employment in favor of staying at home to start a family. John and Debra DiFranco have two children: Nicholas J. and Mia C. DiFranco.

Our son, John F. Creamer, born 1961 in Englewood, NJ served four years in the United States Army Armored Division (Abrams A-1 Tanks), attaining the rank of sergeant. He went to the New York State University at Binghamton, NY for one year but gave up any further attendance when he received a working offer from the Bombardier Corporation. He is the person that Bombardier sends out on site when new rail lines, yards, and cars are to be built in places like Chicago, San Francisco, or New York City. He oversees the development of the sites and makes sure that the cars run smoothly. It is mostly subway tracks with occasionally railroads. I wish I could say that he was involved with the Channel between England and France but he was not. John F. Creamer married Marianne Felon, 1989 in King of Prussia, PA. Marianne is a chemist with Rohm & Haas. I don't know what degree she has, but she is a smart lady. John and Marianne Creamer have one child, Ainsley M. Creamer.

Melinda C. Creamer, born 1972 in Honesdale, PA received a two-year Associate Degree in Business and Computers from Sullivan County Community College and worked for a while as a secretary. She married Daniel Card in 1993 at Hawley, Pike County, PA. Daniel is a truck driver with a spotless safety record and can operate and repair any machine on wheels. He attended a special, short-and-long haul truck driver school. Daniel and Melinda Card have one child, Miranda A. Card, who keeps her mother home full-time.

William B. Creamer, born 1968 in Honesdale, PA attended a two-year college in Cobleskill, NY and continued his education at a college in Utica, NY where he received his BS Degree in Business Management. He has not married and is working for Nielson Research in North Babylon, NY.

The Olin & Benson Planeing Mill in Endicott, NY ca 1905. Left to Right: Orva L. Olin, Colonel "Kern" Frank Benson, unidentified, and Orva's oldest son, Earl Carpenter Olin.

— Photos Courtesy of Thelma Benson Tiedemann —

Ralph Snyder, Corinne Clark, Minnie Snyder,
Carrie and Colonel Frank Benson

Steven A. Creamer, born 1974 in Honesdale, PA is presently attending College at Delhi, NY, studying Forestry, Parks, and Recreation Management. Steven is also in the US Army Reserves as a Dental Technician with the rank of Specialist."

Returning now to Colonel Frank and Carrie M. (Olin) Benson, we cannot help but wonder why his parents named him Colonel. None of his descendants know why. Perhaps it was a popular name resulting from army personnel. In any event, Colonel Frank Benson was nicknamed, "Kern", an adaptation from a kernel of grain. Colonel Benson was a Master Carpenter who built and remodeled houses in the Endicott area of Broome County, NY. He teamed up with another master carpenter, Orva L. Olin, Carrie's cousin. This resulted in a business partnership with a planeing and molding mill in Endicott. The County Directory of early 1900 lists their business as "Olin & Benson," manufacturers and dealers in lumber, at the corner of Clark and Hill Ave., Endicott. The Village of Endicott was expanding rapidly with shoe manufacturers competing for additional space to build. By 1906, Orva Olin and Colonel Benson sold their business site for a good profit to the Endicott-Johnson Shoe Company.

Colonel Benson continued to remodel houses in Endicott. As he grew older, he moved back to Susquehanna, PA, where he started doing less strenuous wood working, cabinet making, as well as remodeling homes. When he was 76 years old, he fell and broke his shoulder while building a garage for his daughter, Corinne, in Fly Creek. After his fall, Colonel confined his wood working skills to grandfather clocks, drop leaf tables, and special cabinets until his death at age 95 in 1950. Carrie M. (Olin) Benson died in 1957 and joined her husband in the Evergreen Cemetery in Susquehanna.

DAISY A. OLIN

Omar and Althea (Bloxham) Olin's daughter, Daisy A. Olin, married Robert A. Sparks, a farmer from neighboring Gelatt. They moved into the upper farm belonging to her father, a good productive farm with good buildings. Robert Sparks was a large, very muscular man, addicted to hard work. He usually took an opposite stand in any discussion of local or national issues with his family and neighbors. He seemed to have a negative outlook on life.

Robert and Daisy Sparks had an only child, Kenneth Sparks, born 1908. The Sparks family enjoyed a good life, rented a decent farm from Omar, and shared in family and neighborhood experiences. Daisy enjoyed her party-line telephone, and shared in the local gossip. Happiness for the Sparks family halted suddenly when Daisy's father died in April, 1913 at his home on Slocum Hill Road. Omar O. Olin's last will and testament dated 20 January 1913, reads as follows:

> This, my last will and testament, is as follows: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Carrie Olin Benson, twenty-six hundred dollars of the Endicott mortgage first payments; to my daughter, Daisy Olin Sparks, the farm she now lives on, covered by three deeds, except ten acres deeded to C. W. Pickering. Also what cattle there is on the farm belonging to me. To my daughter, Minnie B. Olin, the home where we now live; also the stock and tools thereon, she paying my necessary last expenses. What money there is or the equivalent on paper, I want divided equally between Carrie, Daisy, and Minnie, share and share alike.

Omar was unable to sign. He asked one of the witnesses to sign and all witnesses to attest as such. Omar's daughter, Minnie, was named Administrix and bonded for $10,000. Omar O. Olin died 29 March, 1913.

Omar Olin's will, a simple and emphatic disposition of his assets as he wished caused a split in his family that appears to be evident three generations later. Robert Sparks took exception to his father's-in-law will by giving his sister-in-law, Minnie Olin, a hard time over the division of the estate.

Carrie, Daisy and Minnie Olin, daughters of Omar and Althea Olin, ca 1888.

—Photo Courtesy of
Thelma Benson Tiedemann

Robert thought that he and Daisy were being short changed. He ungraciously accepted defeat by forbidding his wife, Daisy, and his young son, Kenneth, to forever speak to either Minnie or Carrie. Consequently, three generations later, very little is known about the Robert and Daisy Sparks family.

Omar Olin was not a wealthy man; yet he was well off compared to the majority of the Susquehanna farmers. He worked hard all his years. He was fortunate to acquire his father's farm at a reasonable price. He added more acreage to his farm and took advantage of the milk and produce markets. He made a success of his horse breeding venture. All these factors contributed to his net worth upon his death. After his wife, Althea, died, Omar began investing in real estate in the Endicott, NY area. He bought and sold lots, at first, just to get familiar with the process until he gained confidence to buy and sell houses. He carried a mortgage on an apartment house in Endicott, thereby receiving monthly income. Minnie Olin, Administrix of her father's estate, bonded for $10,000, had no choice but to abide by her father's specific wishes and the rules of the court.

1938 — Third Annual OLIN Family Reunion for the descendants of John and Ruth Olin. Left to Right — Standing: Orva Lee Olin, Russell Lee Olin, Leona G. Ruland Olin, Nellie Clearwater Lowe, Carie Olin Benson, George Omar Olin, Nettie Estabrook Olin, Ralph Snyder and Charles Lowe. Kneeling — Back Row: Thelma Benson Tiedemann, Gene Earl Olin, Althea Snyder, Minnie Olin Snyder, Colonel Frank Benson, Leon A. Lowe. Front Row: Carol A. Tiedemann, Joan A. Tiedemann and Eileen Snyder. The Reunion was held at the Benson home in Susquehanna, PA.

Robert Sparks sold their inherited farm and bought a large lot with a house and an operating sawmill at the foot of Slocum Hill east of Jackson Village on the Taughannock Creek. Robert and Daisy Olin Sparks died in 1948 and 1957, respectively, and are buried side-by-side in the Gelatt Cemetery. Their son, Kenneth Sparks, took over the old sawmill, and converted it to a machine shop. He was a self-trained, large equipment mechanic who traveled on demand to repair construction equipment that broke down on-site. Kenneth Sparks died ca 1972, leaving two sons, a stepson and a daughter. A known son, Lewis Sparks, owns a family run, junk yard in New Milford, Susquehanna, PA. He is married and has children.

MINNE B. OLIN

Omar and Althea (Bloxham) Olin's youngest daughter, Minnie B. Olin, remained at home after her mother's death and after her sisters' marriages to care for her father. When he died in 1913, Minnie, undaunted by her brother's-in-law actions, sold the OLIN Homestead to a cousin, John Franklin Lowe. Soon after, Lowe sold the OLIN Homestead. The house that Omar and Althea built was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. A family by the name of Whitehead bought the farm in the 1930s and built another house on the same site.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

Minnie had led a lonesome life while caring for her father. She did, however, have repeated proposals from a school teacher who taught in Jackson #1 School in the Village of Jackson. About a year after her father's death, 30-year-old Minnie Olin accepted Ralph A. Snyder and

1958 OLIN Reunion in Windsor, NY. Posing Left to Right: Ralph Snyder, Emilia Delovich Olin, Warren George Olin, Minnie Olin Snyder, and Leona Ruland Olin.

they were married on the 3rd of June, 1914. Call it a coincidence, if you wish, Minnie was one of three sisters with no brothers and her marriage with Ralph Snyder produced four girls with no boys.

Gertrude Snyder, daughter of Minnie and Ralph Snyder showing off her little buddy ca 1930.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

Ralph and Minnie (Olin) Snyder's daughter, Dorothy Snyder Woods, and granddaughter, Karen Woods Marrone have contributed the following story about the Snyder family:

"Minnie Olin Snyder and Ralph Snyder moved to South River, NJ, around 1926 where Ralph became the Principal of the Willett School. They moved to New Brunswick, NJ, when Ralph accepted a position in the Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., bought a house and lived their remaining years in it. All four of their daughters: Gertrude, Althea, Dorothy and Eileen graduated from New Brunswick High School.

Their oldest daughter, Gertrude, born 1915 in Jackson, PA worked as a Secretary for the Carrier Corporation before she died in 1938 at age 23. She died in New Brunswick, NJ and was buried in Jackson, PA.

"Althea, born 1917 in Mehoppany, PA went to work for the telephone company right out of high school, and stayed for 42 years. She met her first husband, John Croxton, at a USO dance during World War II when he was stationed at Camp Kilmer in Edison, NJ. They made their home in Columbia, SC. Althea returned to New Jersey after the marriage failed and returned to the

telephone company. Her second husband, William Louis, whom Althea married in 1969, died in 1984 while both were enjoying retirement in their home at East Stroudsburg, PA. Althea returned again to New Jersey, this time to her sister, Dorothy's home where Dorothy cared for her until Althea died in June, 1990. Althea was very active with the Pioneers of America (a telephone organization) until her illness and was actually still roller skating in her late 70s. She was buried in Metuchen, NJ.

"For the moment, skipping by Dorothy, the third daughter of Ralph and Minnie Snyder, Eileen, born in 1927 in South River, NJ went to work as a secretary for a company that made washing machines. There she met a mechanic, Frank Josay. Their marriage in 1953, ended in divorce five years later. Eileen being the easier to replace was fired from her job to avoid any conflict when divorced couples worked in the same company. (Could you see this happening in 1995?) Eileen went to work for Peoples National Bank and eventually became secretary to the Vice President. She died of pneumonia in New Brunswick, 1984, and was buried next to her parents in Jackson, PA.

"After completing high school, Dorothy Snyder, born 1921, in Nicholson, PA, went to Miss Dunham's Business School. Upon graduation, she went to work for Personal Products, a division of Johnson and Johnson. She married William "Bill" Woods in 1943. Dorothy had known Bill Woods for many years, having grown up in the same neighborhood and sharing experiences at the Pitman United Methodist church. One of Dorothy's best friends was Sally Woods, Bill's sister. He was also working for Johnson and Johnson and the married couple lived in New Brunswick when Bill joined the United States Air Force during World War II. Dorothy moved home with her parents where her first child, Barbara, was born. After the war, Bill was transferred to California to open two new plants for J&J Personal Products Division in 1953. Bill, Dorothy and children: Barbara; Richard; and Nancy lived in Santa Clara and Sunnyvale just below San Francisco, CA. The Woods family returned to Edison, NJ in 1962 where their youngest daughter, Karen, was born. Bill retired five years after Karen's

birth and bought a shore house in Lavallette on the ocean side of the Intracoastal Waterway. Bill became somewhat of a Mr. Mom while Dorothy began her career at Reynolds Aluminum. Both Dorothy and Bill were active in local activities, their church, bridge clubs, and Bill served as President of a Chamber of Commerce in California.

"Dot and Bill Woods' oldest daughter, Barbara, born 1944 in New Brunswick, NJ, worked as a secretary in the John Marshall School where she met Marion Mortensen who had a son, Clifford. They were introduced and married in 1966 at Metuchen, NJ, and made their home in Cranbury, NJ. Cliff worked for McGraw-Hill, retiring ca 1990. Barbara stayed home until her children became older and now serves as clerk for the Township of Monroe. The Mortensen's oldest son, Jeffrey, was born in 1967 in Metuchen, graduated from the University of West Virginia and works for Market Source in Cranbury. Cliff and Barbara's daughter, Lisa, born 1970 in Metuchen also attended the University of West Virginia and received her MBA. Lisa lives in Manhattan, New York City and is a stock broker trainee for Prudential Securities. Young Scott Mortensen is a Junior in High School and loves to play golf.

"William and Dorothy Snyder Wood's only son, Richard, born 1949 in New Brunswick, NJ is a confirmed bachelor who lived in New Jersey and Texas before settling in Florida. He develops large computer systems for clients like Orange County Complex and Tupperware Company. He drives a red Camaro and has a big German Shepherd named Amos.

"Nancy, born 1951 in New Brunswick, graduated from Glassboro State College, NJ. She was working in the *Home News* Advertising Department when she met Richard Regan. They were married in 1977 at Summit, NJ and a daughter, Tracy, was born in 1981. Richard "Rich" is an accountant in the area and Nancy is the Director of Christian Education at the First Presbyterian Church. Their daughter, Tracy Regan, is in the seventh grade and keeps active in her church and Girl Scouts.

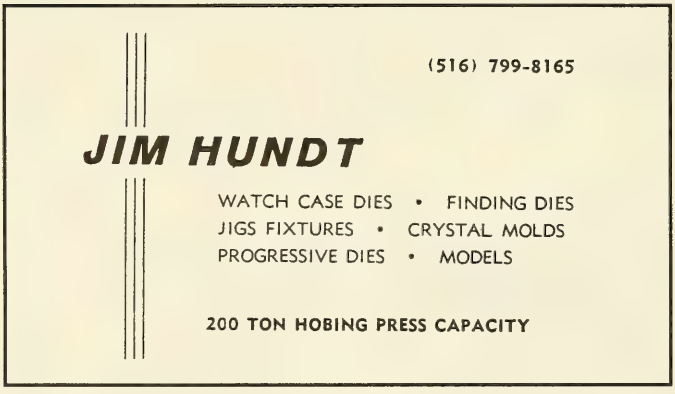
"Karen was born, 1962 in New Brunswick and graduated from Montclair State College, NJ. She and her future husband met while attending the County Community College, continued together

Watermelon time at the 1985 OLIN Reunion in South Windsor Grange Hall. Left to Right: Emilia Delovich Olin, Karen Woods, Warren Olin and Joyce Olin Powell. Person in door, unidentified.

— Photos Courtesy George Olin Family —

A popular liniment for man or beast at the turn of the century concocted in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA.

at Montclair College, eventually married in 1986 in Metuchen, NJ. Her husband, Gerard Marrone, is Director for Sales for Kramer Scientific in Yonkers, NY that sells medical supplies to hospitals, doctors and dentists. Karen worked for Optical World as an Account Manager until 1991 when family responsibilities became demanding. Gerard and Karen Marrone have three children: Gerard Andrew, born 1988 in Long Beach, NJ; Sara Elizabeth, born 1990; and William in 1993, both born in Edison, NJ. Karen is not only a full-time mom, she is a Deacon in her church and active in the school's PTA and Boy Scouts. Gerard coaches soccer and basketball and enjoys golfing. In typical Woods family tradition, the Marrones spend their summer months with mother and grandmother, Dorothy Snyder Woods, at her shore house in Lavallette."



Business card of Jeweler James Hundt before his retirement in the late 1980s. James was married to Joan Tiedemann, daughter of Thelma Benson Tiedemann, granddaughter of Carrie Olin Benson.

CHART - 17

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
Reuben OLIN (4)
John OLIN (5)
Ruth Culver

Children (6)

(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1 - Jane OLIN			
2 - Hyde OLIN Mariah Nicholas	Hattie M. OLIN Crosby J. Moffatt	Charles B. MOFFATT Pauline Cobb	Lee H. MOFFATT 1 - Freda Wagner 2 - Ethel _____ 3 - Freda Wagner	Carol Lee MOFFATT Jerry Haddox
		Maude MOFFATT Charles H. Hakes		
		Dr. William MOFFATT Ina Goodspeed	Joan A. TIEDEMANN James H. Hundt	Robert H. HUNDT Luncinda J. HUNDT John Robinson
	Adelia OLIN Charles Lewis	Vernon LEWIS		
		Leonard LEWIS		
		Louis LEWIS		
3 - Earl OLIN Abigail T. Carpenter (see Chart - 21)	Lizzie OLIN			
	Carrie M. OLIN Colonel Frank Benson	Corinne A. BENSON Francis E. Clark		
		Thelma E. BENSON William D. Tiedemann	Carol A. TIEDEMANN Bernard E. Creamer	Susan E. CREAMER Robert Amenta
4 - Irene OLIN Asahel (Card) Lowe (see Chart - 19)				John CREAMER Marianne Fenlon
				Debra L. CREAMER John F. DiFranco
				William B. CREAMER
				Melinda C. CREAMER Daniel J. Card
	Daisy A. OLIN Robert A. Sparks	Kenneth SPARKS 1 - Harriet E. _____ 2 - Marguerite G. _____	Lewis SPARKS	Steven A. CREAMER
				Jeffery MORTENSON
				Lisa MORTENSON
		Gertrude SNYDER	Barbara J. WOODS Clifford Mortenson	Scott MORTENSON
		Althea SNYDER 1 - John M. Croxton, Jr. 2 - J. William Louis	Nancy E. WOODS Richard Regan	Tracey REGAN
5 - Omar O. OLIN Althea Bloxham	Minnie B. OLIN Ralph A. Snyder	Dorothy SNYDER William Woods	Richard WOODS	Gerard MARRONE
			Karen S. WOODS Gerard Marrone	Sara MARRONE
		Eileen SNYDER Frank Josay		William MARRONE

CHART - 18

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

William CARPENTER (1)
(First in America)
Abigail _____

William CARPENTER (2)
Pricilla Bennett
m. 1651, Rehoboth, MA

Obadiah CARPENTER (3)
Deliverance Preston
m. 1703, Rehoboth, MA

Obadiah CARPENTER (4)
Bethiah CARPENTER Lyon
m. 1728, Attleboro, MA

Obadiah CARPENTER (5)
(Served in the Revolutionary War)
Amy/Mercy Lee
m. 1766, Attleboro, MA

Obadiah CARPENTER (6)
Mary Tyler
m. 1790, Attleboro, MA

Obadiah Lee CARPENTER (7)
Eliza J. Tingley
m. 1831, Harford, PA

Abigail T. CARPENTER (8)
Earl OLIN
m. 1861, Ararat, PA

Orva Lee OLIN (9)
Ida R. Corey
m. 1884, Alford, PA

George Omar OLIN (10)
Leona G. Ruland
m. 1920, Binghamton, NY

Donald E. OLIN (11)
Lucille Weeks
m. 1949, Windsor, NY

William E. OLIN (12)
Linda Bonney
m. 1973, Auburn, ME

This chart indicates a direct line of 11 generations descending from William CARPENTER. The maiden name of each wife is shown as well as the marriage year and place.
(May be helpful for DAR Application)

PART X — John OLIN Family of New York and Pennsylvania

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Notes:

PART XI

Irene Lowe, Progenitress of the OLIN Lowes

"You can clutch the past so tightly to your chest
Only that it leaves your arms too full to embrace the present!"

—*St. Petersburg Times*, Jan Glidewell

Chapter 40

Sons: John F., Edward A., Willie A. and Daughter, Rose L.

Asahel Albert and Irene (Olin) Lowe's first born was John Franklin Lowe, born 1864, and always known as "Frank" by his family and neighbors. Frank was the black sheep of the family. He was a reluctant scholar and failed to complete grade school. He was uncomfortable around the opposite sex, and kept his distance until his marriage at age 35. Still, he proved to the world that he was a successful farmer who worked as hard and diligently as his neighbors, if not more so. Of course, he had a lot of free help from his younger brothers when they could break away from their assigned chores. He was the first farmer to own a grain reaper and binder and the first threshing machine operated by a gasoline engine in the hills of eastern Susquehanna County, PA.

When Frank was 17 years old, he took a trip to Owego, Tioga County, NY to get a job with the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad that was under construction on the south side of the Susquehanna River between Binghamton and the Pennsylvania border. He found that to get a job, he was competing with Italian immigrants who were working for practically nothing. He heard about another job

in Catatonk, three miles north of Owego. He hustled over and got the job of mixing mortar for bricklayers on the Standard Oil pumping station. He managed to save $60 before the job was completed. When his mother wrote to him in August, 1882, she said, "If you cannot get a decent job in Owego, come back home." Frank came back home, rented a farm, and began building up a dairy herd to supply whole milk to the creameries.

Frank Lowe lived alone on his farm, and very rarely visited his mother. What little cooking, washing, mending, or other household chores which were done by him were far below minimum standards. His house was a mess, his cupboards empty and his clothes were threadbare. Whenever his mother took time out from her busy schedule to make a visit, she almost always overworked herself. His father was ashamed of his son for being so slovenly. Yet, his youngest brother, Leon, adored his oldest brother and admired his lifestyle. Leon spent all of his free time helping Frank on his farm. Once in awhile, Frank would give Leon "two bits", a quarter, usually in smaller change. Leon liked to hear the jingle of coins in his pockets.

In 1897, when Irene was experiencing her health problems, his brother and sister-in-law, Charles and Mary, moved in with Frank. Mary surprised everyone when she managed to clean Frank's house from top to bottom. Mary made a special birthday cake to honor her and Frank's mutual birthday, March 16th. But it did not take Mary long to become discouraged trying to fight Frank's way of life. She and Charles returned to his parents' home when Frank refused to let Mary have any cream to use.

Charles put his foot down and took Frank to the Village of Susquehanna where they hired a housekeeper and brought her to Frank's house. Four days later she quit, and demanded to be taken back to Susquehanna. Apparently Frank began to realize that he did need a woman's touch. The next year, Frank walked into the Lowe home to proudly present his wife, May Spangenberg, daughter of George and Kate (Barlow) Spangenberg. The happy Lowe family welcomed her and May responded by making frequent visits to Irene during the last days of Irene's life.

May made noticeable improvements in the inside and the outside of Frank's house. She got Frank to clean up his barn and dooryard and himself. Both were accepted into community social life. On April 30,

1911, 47-year-old Frank Lowe became the father of a daughter, Lila May, his only child. Lila married Ben Meade and had four children.

Frank and May expanded their farming activities in 1914 by purchasing the original John and Ruth Olin farm who had turned it over to their son, Omar Olin who in turn willed it to his daughter, Minnie Olin. Minnie married Ralph Snyder, gave up the farm to Frank Lowe, her cousin.

John Franklin Lowe died 19 March, 1929 in Thompson and was buried in the East Jackson Cemetery. His grave marker also includes his wife, May, and daughter, Lila. In his will Frank divided his assets equally between his wife and daughter.

—Photo Courtesy of Olmstead Family

Reaping, binding and shocking oats on the Frank Lowe farm, ca 1900, in Susquehanna County, PA. Left to Right: John Franklin Lowe, his wife, May Spangenberg Lowe, her brother, Jesse, and son, Frank's two brothers, Charles Olin Lowe and Leon A. Lowe.

EDWARD ALBERT LOWE

Asahel and Irene (Olin) Lowe's second child was Edward Albert Lowe, born 1865 in Gibson, Susquehanna County, PA. Confusion exists among the Lowe family over Edward's marriage and children. It was possible that Edward either had an early unrecorded marriage or a

common-law wife when he was about 20 years old in 1885. He was thought to have had a son, LaVerne Lowe, but no further reference has been made to him. Therefore, Edward A. Lowe's marriage to Alice Belle Welton on the 24th of September, 1893 by Rev. G. E. Flint in her parents' home in Nineveh, NY is considered to be the only one on record. Six years later, Edward and Alice had their only child, Arthur Lewis Lowe, born 7 October 1899. The Welton family lived on the north end of the "Plains" across the Susquehanna River from Harpursville and Nineveh, Broome County, NY.

Edward left home about 1885 to become a salesman for American Woolen Mills Company, the world's largest tailors located in Chicago, IL. According to Edward's business card, he was the official sales representative in the district surrounding Harpursville. Although his salesmanship and product proved to be unprofitable, he met the girl he married.

He was convinced by local businessmen to try the logging and sawmill trade which was booming at the time. His first mill was in Otsego and his second in Schenevus, both is Otsego County, NY. He established a permanent home and mill in Schenevus and started other operations in Delaware County to the east of Otsego County. Edward became quite well off for the times, and was able to make frequent trips to the Triple Cities: Binghamton, Lestershire, and Endicott to visit relatives and to do business. Every year he made it a point to attend the New York State Fair in Syracuse, NY.

Charles and Leon looked forward to visits with Edward who gave them work and paid them cash. After their mother died, Edward offered to take his father into his home in return for what minor jobs his aging father was capable of doing, just to keep him occupied. Edward very rarely traveled back to Jackson when his mother was alive and never after her death.

Edward's mill in Schenevus produced, among other things, chestnut lumber for caskets. By the turn of the century, trees large enough for lumber were depleted in Otsego County so Edward shifted his logging and mill operation to Delaware County, NY. His son, Arthur Lewis Lowe was born in Hamdenville, Delaware County. The Lowe mill was moved on to Davenport. It was here where Edward began to tire of the endless efforts necessary to make a profit. Competition was fierce. The only money maker left was to cut and size "mine props", logs used to

shore up the walls and ceilings of Pennsylvania coal mines. In 1915, the Lowes returned to their permanent home in Schenevus where Edward signed on as a signalman for the Delaware and Hudson Railroad. In 1921, he injured his left leg on the job and died in Fox Memorial Hospital in Oneonta, NY, the 4th of April, 1921. His wife, Alice B. Welton Lowe, died 18 December 1953; both are buried in Schenevus.

Edward and Alice Lowe's son, Arthur, was lucky to finish seven grades of schooling. He capitalized on his natural ability and taught himself to be an efficient mechanic and machinist. He became infatuated with big steam and gasoline engines, and worked with them well into his old age. His first job was with the D & H Railroad, but he soon decided that the automobile and truck with small gasoline engines were fast replacing the horse and wagon. He opened up his own garage and machine shop in 1918 and began repairing used trucks and renting them out to the local town highway departments.

Arthur "Art" Lowe married Blanche Miller, 25 May 1919 in Schenevus. She was born 11 December 1897 in Schoharie Junction, Schoharie County, NY. Art and Alice had one child, a daughter, Alberta Lowe, born ca 1921 in Frankport, near Cooperstown. Alberta married John Farouche in 1942.

Blanche Miller Lowe died 31 October 1977 and Arthur Lewis Lowe died in 1984. Both are buried in Otsego County, NY.

—Photo Courtesy of Olmstead Family

Arthur Lewis Lowe stands proudly by his 1931 Chrysler, one of several automobiles in his collection. Photo dated: 1977.

WILLIE A. LOWE

Asahel and Irene Olin Lowe's third child, Willie A. Lowe, was born 13 November 1867 in Gibson and died when two weeks old on 25 November 1867 in Gibson, Susquehanna County, PA.

ROSE LUCINDA LOWE

Asahel and Irene Olin Lowe's only daughter, Rose Lucinda Lowe, was born 24 January 1877 in Jackson, PA. Rose was the family pride and joy with her sweet disposition and glowing health. Her rosy cheeks proved to the world that she was correctly named.

Rose Lowe married a local boy, John Henry Stockwell, who continued with minor farming like his father. He was born around 1876, probably in the Jackson area.

Rose and her mother stayed very close and they visited each other at least once a week, usually staying overnight. Even though Irene was beginning to feel "poorly" she insisted on making life comfortable and bearable for her daughter during her pregnancy. A daughter, Elma Ruth Stockwell, was born 23 February 1897 to the proud Stockwell parents. When Irene became bedridden, Rose tried her very best to care for and ease her mother's pain, but found it difficult to do so with her baby on hand. Consequently, Irene spent more and more of her time at the Stockwell home.

The Stockwells were forced to move in late 1898 and relocated at Lanesboro, Susquehanna County, PA. Irene moved along with her daughter. However, Rose became deathly ill in November and Irene was taken back to her home in Jackson. Rose died 14 January 1899 in Lanesboro, one month before her daughter's second birthday. Irene died the following year.

John Stockwell and his daughter, Elma, continued to pay visits to "Grandpa" Asahel Lowe until he left Susquehanna County for New York State.

Chapter 41

Son, Charles Olin Lowe, The Whiskered One

Asahel Albert Lowe and Irene Olin Lowe's fourth son, Charles Olin Lowe, was born 1874-75 in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA. "Charlie" completed his eight grades of schooling in Jackson Township #9 School with no difficulties other than attendance. His mind and body seemed to seek out the odd, curious or mystery in everyday life involving nature. He began hunting with a rifle when he was ten years old. Firearms were an obsession for this gun collector, gun restorer, ammunition loader, and unfailing marksman. He spent plenty of time scraping and stretching the skins from the wild fur bearing "critters" caught in his traps so that he received more cash for his skins.

As Charlie grew older he gave more of himself to others than others gave to him, always helping where an extra hand was needed. He liked to be on the go but always returned home. He worked on his brother, Frank's farm, helped at his brother, Edward's sawmills, and tended to his cousin, Orva Olin's chores when Orva was away on carpentry work. Through all this, he managed to set up a shop complete with a wood stove so that he could keep busy filing saws of all types, making wooden handles for axes, shovels, cant-hooks, tongues and reaches for wagons, thills for buggys, repairing watches and clocks, soldering leaky pails and tubs, and sharpening knives and shears. But he absolutely refused to perform any repairs on the engine and running gear of his old 1917 Chevrolet. For that, he relied on Mr. Lewis in Gelatt. He helped erect silos, work on the highways, haul pole wood, set up his gasoline engine and buzz saw for his neighbors, and set dynamite charges (his father called Charlie a "dinomiter") for stump or rock removal.

During the last months of his mother's suffering in 1900, she craved fish. Since nearby ponds were fished out, Charlie bought a bicycle to ride a few miles away to Fox Farm Pond, Butler Lake, and Heart Lake where fish were reported to be thriving. Charlie made some fine catches making his mother happy, but not without a price. On the

trip back from Butler Lake on a sweltering, September afternoon, a thunderstorm suddenly appeared. Charlie took shelter under a big, oak tree. Lightning struck the tree, knocking Charlie down unconscious. When he awoke the storm was gone, the sun was out, and he felt all right.

Charlie was a lifelong member of the NRA (National Rife Association) and carried a Susquehanna County license to carry a 32 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver for personal protection. He and his brother belonged to the Local Chapter of "The Knights of the Maccabees" a fraternal and benevolent legal reserve society.

Once his father complained of a double toothache and wished they were out of his head. Charlie went out to his workshop, came back with a pair of pliers, and pulled the two troublesome teeth for his father.

In the spring of 1895, Charlie visited his brother, Edward, who was married and living with his Welton in-laws at Ninevah, NY. Mary, the 20-year-old sister of Edward's wife, was a beautiful, out-going flirt who knew she was an attention grabber to the opposite sex. Charlie fell for her hook, line, and sinker. Charlie O. Lowe and Mary Charlotte Welton were married Christmas Eve, 1895 in the Welton home.

Their marriage was destined to be troublesome right from the beginning. Charlie liked his independence and being able to travel to help other families with their problems. Mary preferred to be back with her parents. She took advantage of Charlie's absences or became upset over an issue, as an excuse to go home. This happened dozens of times. Charlie would let her stay away a few days before traveling to New York State to bring her back. He gave up with her when their two daughters married and left with their husbands.

Charlie and Mary's first daughter, Florence Irene Lowe, born 21 November 1896 in Jackson, married Harry LaVerne Olmstead of Schenevus, Otsego County, NY on January 27, 1915. Their other daughter, Bertha Olive Lowe, born 28 December 1902 in Jackson, married Fred Pedrone, April 12, 1922. While the girls were growing to maturity, Mary usually took Florence with her on her many trips to Nineveh, leaving Bertha behind for Charlie.

In the years following his mother's death in 1900, Charlie tried his best to remain home and focus on keeping his family together. He understood wild animals, fish and man-made material things much better than women or how to grow crops. Grasshoppers, sheep, and

weeds consumed his gardens. Bugs and blight wiped out his potato crop. After a few years, the barrels and bins in the cellar were empty, his cupboards were bare, his store credit was being challenged, and he needed a new tire for his bicycle. His father had died in Schenevus, Otsego County, NY, at Edward's home. So Charlie closed up the house and sent Mary to Nineveh. He headed to Oneonta in New York State where he hoped to gain employment.

Charles Olin Lowe and his Susquehanna County gun collection, 1929.

— Photos Courtesy of Olmstead Family —

Mary Welton Lowe, Charlie's wife, with grandson, Winton O. Olmstead and granddaughter, Marguerite E. Pedrone, 1926.

Charlie's daughter, Florence, had just married Harry Olmstead and they were living in Oneonta. Harry worked as a teamster and log peeler for Wedderspoon and Holbrook Sawmill. He vouched for Charlie's character and experience so Wedderspoon and Holbrook hired Charlie to do the same kind of work as his son-in-law. Driving teams was not a bad job but peeling bark was dusty and dirty. The logs were dragged through mud and dust to the mill by a team with one end of the logs either raised on a skid or a two wheel contraption.

After a few weeks, Charlie developed an allergy from the dust and took his problem to a druggist in Marsh's Drug Store on the corner of Main and Chestnut Streets in Oneonta. The druggist failed to curb Charlie's allergy and suggested that he see Dr. C. J. Diss. After three visits in 1912, Dr. Diss wrote a note for Charlie to present to his boss, "This is to certify that I consider it inadvisable for Charlie Lowe to continue at a dusty job."

Charlie had hoped for a change of assignment; instead, he was told to continue or leave. Charlie liked the regular pay so he made a deal with Harry's brother, George Olmstead, to fill in for him when there were a lot of logs to be peeled. Charlie kept his job, received full pay, kept records, and paid George out of his own pocket. Two years of that was enough for George. Charlie left the W & H Sawmill to take a job in one of the creameries.

He soon drifted back to Susquehanna County. In 1937, his hunting license issued by the State of Pennsylvania described him to be 63 years old, a laborer, grey hair, blue eyes and 5' 9" tall. His special hunting partner was Earl Evans, Sheriff of Susquehanna County, PA.

Charlie and one of his cousins, John Lowe, decided to live together in a rented house outside the Village of Gelatt near Stearns Lake. Both were eccentric and set in their ways. We don't know what John's feelings toward Charlie were but Charlie mentioned that John was mean. Both were crack shots with their rifles. Charlie was disappointed if he fell short of killing 50 woodchucks during a summer.

A story about John's accuracy with a rifle continues to circulate in the countryside. It seems that John had a team of horses and one of the two refused to come in from the pasture when called. When John tried to catch him, the horse shied away. Desperate to show his authority and anxious to get to town, John loaded his rifle, waited for the horse to stand still, took careful aim at a certain spot on the horse's head, and

fired. The horse dropped. John, slipped a halter and rope over its head and tied him to a nearby fence post. After a few minutes the horse struggled and stood up quite willing to be led to the barn. John's shot was perfect, grazing the forehead just enough to knock him out.

During the Great Depression, the mid-to-late 1930s, Charlie once again set up a workshop, taking in a nickel or a dime at a time. By now, he had become a professional "moocher." His 1917 chevy was road worthy enough to get him around the country to visit relatives and better-off friends. He knew who had well-supplied kitchens and timed his visits for a noon or evening meal.

In 1940, both Charlie and John received their first Social Security checks. Charlie called his $16 check his old age pension. Both were eligible for "bean relief", a government-sponsored dole of crude staples for the needy. Either John or Charlie would trudge into Gelatt with a soiled flour sack to pick up their allotment of canned milk, cornmeal, dried beans and more dried beans, from Wheeler's Store. A little later the brothers moved south of Gelatt to Chipmunk Hollow on the flats between Gelatt and Smiley. Charlie traded his old chevy in for a newer model, a 1929 Chevy.

He and his new Chevy took a trip to the Elizabethtown Hospital in southeast Pennsylvania to visit a friend. He was impressed to see his state's capital in Harrisburg and particularly impressed with airplanes which took off and landed on water. In 1941, it cost him $2.15 for 14 gallons of gas and 20¢ for one quart of oil for his car. Charlie made frequent trips to New York State to visit his brother: Leon, in Franklin, Delaware County; his daughter Bertha Pedrone in Binghamton, Broome County; and his daughter, Florence Olmstead Codner, in Owego, Tioga County. His brothers, Frank and Edward, had died earlier.

Charlie always made it a point of honor to attend the Annual OLIN Reunion. His last was on a Saturday, August 2, 1941 at Coxton Lake, PA. In September, Charlie's health began to fail. He gave up his Chevy, and took to riding buses and trains to New York State. He spent his last years with the Codner family in Owego, doing what he could, digging potatoes, picking berries and cutting wood. His death in 1944 was attributed to stomach ulcers.

Mary C. Welton Lowe died ten years later at the home of her daughter, Bertha Pedrone. Notice how the care of parents to children reversed when children cared for parents. Charles Olin Lowe and Mary

C. Welton were reunited in the burial grounds of the East Jackson Cemetery.

Charles Olin Lowe certainly fit the old saying, "Jack of all trades and master of none." He often quoted his own philosophy on life, "Every man is like a book; you just need to know how to read him."

FLORENCE IRENE LOWE

Charles Olin Lowe and Mary C. Welton's daughters, Florence and Bertha Lowe were raised by parents who loved their children, but expressed their own love for each other in acts of passion rather than a true, everyday love for each other. Consequently, the small Lowe family was often split until the girls became of age, married and left for a home of their own. Their schooling suffered because of the changing home environment and location. Both girls became mature and shining examples of perseverance, faithfulness, and supportive women for their husbands and children. Their mother, Mary, was fastidious and kept her daughters clean and well dressed. Their father was proud, of his children's progress in school. He kept records of their final grades in his journals.

Perhaps the most influential person in Florence and Bertha's lives was Grandpa Asahel Lowe. In his journal for 1907-08, he wrote about his granddaughters helping him plant potatoes on his 12-acre field. He would mark the rows and drop the potato seed in the row. Behind him, one of the girls would step on the potato, pushing it a little deeper into the soil. Then he would take his hoe and pull more soil over it.

One year, he followed someone else's advice and covered his seed with buckwheat straw rather than extra soil. This method was supposed to eliminate digging in the fall when the straw was removed. That fall, when he removed the straw, he found that rodents had consumed most of the potatoes intended for his winter supply.

Florence and Bertha often would take Grandpa's lunch to him, sandwiches in a shredded wheat box and cool water in a quart canning jar. Grandpa and the girls would sit in the shade of a big old sassafras tree. The girls were very happy when Grandpa shared his lunch and told many little stories. After lunch, he would usually work another hour before taking a small hand in each of his and slowly walk back home.

Florence Lowe Olmstead nods off to sleep while waiting for this photo to be taken of her daughter, Betty's new dress and rattle, ca 1916.

— Photo Courtesy Olmstead Family and Chuck Yungkurth —

Charlie Lowe has just given his granddaughter, Betty Olmstead, her daily bath on the back porch, ca 1916.

— Photo Courtesy Olmstead family and Chuck Yungkurth

The Olmstead family lived in the "hop" growing area near Cooperstown, NY. Apparently the above hop pickers are performing a ritual, swapping attire, either before the picking starts or at the end of the picking season. Left to Right: Harry Olmstead; Edith Olmstead Allen, his sister; George Allen, husband of Edith; and Florence Lowe Olmstead, wife of Harry Olmstead, ca 1916.

Florence Irene Lowe, born 21 November 1896 in Jackson, PA, married Harry LaVerne Olmstead, 27 January 1915 in Davenport, Delaware County, NY. Harry was working at one of Edward Lowe's sawmills and Florence was a frequent visitor to her Uncle Ed and Aunt Alice. Harry and Florence moved to Phoenix Mills, Otsego County, NY where Florence gave birth to a daughter, Hazel "Betty" Irene Olmstead, on 9 April 1916. The Olmsteads moved to Schenevus where her father was helping at Edward's mill.

Florence Lowe Olmstead became the belle of Schenevus. Her father repaired and repainted his retired old bicycle and gave it to Florence. She was thrilled. She made herself a pale, blue, serge, bloomer suit with puffed sleeves nipped in at the elbows and the bloomers gathered in just below the knees. She wore black stockings and black high button boots. She topped off her fetching outfit with a bright red cummerbund to make her look even slimmer than she was. Florence presented a pretty picture, as she rode the streets and roads around Schenevus.

Florence and Harry Olmstead had a son, Herbert LaVerne Olmstead, born 7 February 1918, who died one month later in Schenevus. Harry L. Olmstead died August 3, 1921, roughly six months before the birth of another son, Winton Oliver Olmstead, born 29 January 1922 in Schenevus.

After the death of her husband and the birth of their son, Florence Lowe Olmstead took her two children to Elmira, Chemung County, NY. She had another daughter, born 15 November 1924 in Elmira. She named her Elaine Jeanne Olmstead.

Florence married her second husband in Owego, Tioga County, NY on 11 December 1926. She wore a green dress with a row of buttons down the front as Rev. Darling performed the ceremony uniting Florence Lowe Olmstead and Harry W. Codner. Harry Codner was a likable father to his stepchildren. He called them: "Betty, Buddy and Billy." Betty for Hazel (she has always used the name, Betty, ever since), Buddy for Winton, and Billy for Elaine (who knows why?).

Betty Olmstead's beauty and charm was apparent at an early age. She dressed in the provocative, and fashionable manner of teenagers during the Depression years, but she cheerfully did her share of home chores. Betty could saw, split and pile wood, hoe and dig potatoes as well as most men. Over the years her work experience included waitressing in restaurants, assisting in nursing homes, manufacturing Endicott Johnson shoes, and assembling rubber fuel cells for aircraft during World War II.

In 1934, Betty Olmstead married Harold Smith and had a daughter, Faith Ione, born 1935 in Newark Valley, Tioga County, NY. Faith Smith married first, LeRoy Harrington, 1955 and they had two children: Albert E. Harrington, born 1957; and Edward John Harrington, born 1959. Her second marriage was to Robert Benjamin in 1977 at Owego, NY.

Betty Olmstead had two children with Chester Barton of Owego. The first was Florence Patricia Barton, born 1937, who married Walter Harrison. He worked for National Pipe in Vestal, Broome County, NY. Patricia left and joined the Merchant Marines where she received excellent training in fire control and rescue on the high seas. She was hired by ARCO and has served as a cook on oil barges that run between Alaska and California. Betty and Chester Barton's other child was

Brian William Barton, born 1939, who has worked as a carpenter and a truck driver. Brian W. Barton had three marriages and six children.

Hazel "Betty" Irene Olmstead could handle the axe as well as any man. ca 1934

Elaine Jeanne Olmstead and her brother, Winton Oliver Olmstead, ca 1941.

— Photos Courtesy of the Olmstead Family —

Betty Olmstead and her sister, Elaine Majursky, at the New York and Pennsylvania OLIN Reunion at Owego, NY, 1994.

In 1934, Betty married William M. Tuttle in Richford, Tioga County, NY and they had three children. Yvonne Irene Tuttle, born 1944 in Owego, married Robert Cronauer. They live in Waterbury, Connecticut where she works in a nursing home and helps her husband in the family business, buying and selling old and new books. Naomi Olive Tuttle, born 1946 in Johnson City, Broome County, NY, married Kenneth Vought. They both worked at the Smith Corona Typewriter plant in Cortland, NY. Harry Neil Tuttle, born 1948 in Johnson City, married Sally Clark. He served in the Vietnam War and was given a medical discharge and resides in Florida.

Betty Olmstead's last marriage was to Caesar J. Teleica in 1959 at Waterbury, CT. He had a son, Michael S. Teleica but no children with Betty. They were divorced in 1984.

Florence and Harry Olmstead's son, Winton O. Olmstead, married Hazel Bixby in 1942 at Owego. Winton enlisted, 5 February 1940, in the US Army and was stationed at Fort Totten, Long Island, NY. He was looking forward to an overseas assignment when he was hospitalized early in 1942 twice for an unresolved problem and discharged late in 1942. After his discharge from the US Army, Winton worked for Endicott Johnson Shoe Manufacturing and at times on the Miles Cole farm. His death in 1944 resulted from poliomyelitis.

Winton and Hazel (Bixby) Olmstead's children consisted of Dale Edward Olmstead born 1945 who married Phyllis Thyme in 1968. Dale and Phyllis had two children: Dale Edward Jr.; and Arron Winton Olmstead. Dale Sr. is the current director of the Ford chorus in Detroit, Michigan. Hazel Bixby Olmstead had another son; born 1948, named Ernest Eugene Olmstead.

Elaine Jeanne Olmstead, daughter of Florence Olmstead, was born 1924, in Elmira and raised in the Codner family when Florence married Harry Codner. She graduated from Owego High School in the class of 1943 during the middle of World War II. When she was 16 years old, the school bus in which she was riding, overturned on the highway. Some children were injured, but none were killed. During the winters of 1942-44, due to war time rationing and shortages, the Codners were forced to heat and cook with wood. Wood was scarce in their neighborhood, but a distant neighbor brought many loads of block wood

to the Codner family's home. He was Miles Cole who proposed to Elaine the day after her high school graduation.

Elaine J. Olmstead and Miles R. Cole were married in August, 1943 in Owego and had three daughters: Rebecca Elaine Cole, born 1948; Nancy Jeanne Cole, born 1952; and Jane Antoinette Cole, born 1958. Disaster struck the Cole family in 1955. According to the April 2nd, 1955 edition of the *Owego Gazette* "Mr. and Mrs. Miles Cole and two children were visiting neighbors when their oil burner exploded and their home burned to the ground on Goodrich Settlement Road." The Cole family was watching pictures and sound on a television screen for the first time, and were thankful that they had escaped the explosion and fire.

Elaine married her second husband, Walter Majursky, born 1920, son of John and Romaldo (Morusizko) Majursky of Berkshire, NY, in 1976. She met Walter when she began working for UPS (United Postal Service) Distribution Center in Vestal, NY. Both Elaine and Walter retired from UPS in 1985. Walter Majursky died in Sayre, PA in March, 1993. Elaine Olmstead Cole Majrusky worked as a waitress in the Deepwell and Treadway Inn Restaurants in Owego, and she worked for Endicott Johnson Shoe Manufacturer and UPS.

Miles and Elaine Cole's daughter, Rebecca, married Dennis Benjamin. Dennis died, 1967, in an automobile accident leaving a daughter, Tammy Benjamin. Rebecca Cole Benjamin married again, 1970, to Ronald G. Richards, a maintenance supervisor in South Carolina. They had one son, Robert Richards, born 1971 and adopted another boy, a Thailand orphan, in 1984. They named their new, two-year-old son, born 1982, Johnathan Richards. Rebecca Cole Benjamin Richards works as a sales clerk in one of the popular Winn Dixie stores in North Augustus, SC.

Nancy Jeanne Cole, the second daughter of Miles and Elaine Cole, first married Vernon Crown, son of Fred and Joan Crown of Owego. The Crowns had one child, Rebecca Elaine Crown, born 1974 who married Eric Maines who owned and operated a restaurant in Florida. Her second marriage, 1975, was to Robert Gallatin. They had a daughter, Maria Anna Gallatin, born 1976, who married Jason McIntosh. Nancy Cole Crown Gallatin has worked in most of the popular motels from Miami to Kissimee, Florida.

Brian William Barton and stepdaughter, Luanne, Kenneth R. Codner, Nancy Cole Gallatin and her grandson, Dale Maines, 1994.

◄ Rebecca Cole Richards on the job, Western Day in Winn Dixie store, SC, ca 1980.

▲ Jane Cole Miller of the US Air Force, TX, 1990.

—Photos Courtesy of the Olmstead Family—

Jane Antoinette Cole, the youngest of the Cole sisters, first married Timothy Wasielewski, 1979 in Owego. They had one child, Joshua Edward, born 1983 in Texas and died a month later in Texas. Both Timothy and Jane were members of the United States Air Force, stationed in Texas. Jane married a second time to Stanley Miller, another Air Force member, in 1987 in Abilene, Texas. Jane Cole Wasielewski Miller was promoted early in 1988 to the rank of Staff Sergeant, she works as a personnel specialist with the 199th 3rd Communications Squadron at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas.

The first half of the 1940s tested the spirit and fortitude of the Florence and Harry Codner family. The threat of a World War, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt declaration of war against Japan and Germany, the sacrifices imposed on the home front, and the personal worry over loved ones were difficult for everyone to bear. Florence received word in 1941 that Leona Lowe Olin Jacobson had died under mysterious circumstances leaving a young daughter. Later the same year, the Codner family moved to the Gene Ayres farm where Harry had found work. Florence received word that Orva L. Olin died in 1942. But the worst was yet to come. In 1944, Florence lost her son, Winton and her father, Charles Olin Lowe.

Perhaps to make up for the loss of their son, Winton, Florence and Harry Codner adopted in 1948 a local teenage boy whose family had ignored him. He was Kenneth R. Codner who married Mary I. McCauly in 1951. This marriage provided the Codner family with six children: Kenneth H. Codner, born 1952 and married to Ilene Garrison in 1979; Michelle Codner, born 1954 and married to Gerard Hoppe in 1981; Virginia Codner, born 1955 and married to Timothy Guiles in 1978; Gerald Codner, born 1958 and married Joyce Marks; Marietta Codner, born 1960 and married to Eric Pianosi in 1982; and April Codner, born 1963 and married to John Bedell, son of Charles and Ana Bedell, in 1982.

Kenneth R. and Mary Codner, husband and wife, died 1978 in a truck accident near Waverly, NY. Mary was riding with Kenneth in an oil truck owned by the Town in which he had a job with the Highway Department.

Florence Lowe Olmstead Codner was quite interested in the OLIN/Lowe Family History. She corresponded with many family

members including Clayton P. Olin of New Hampshire and George O. Olin of Doraville, Broome County, NY. She inherited the book published by C. C. Olin in 1983 on the John OLIN History that her grandfather, Asahel Lowe had purchased in 1896.

Harry Codner died, 1960, in Owego. Florence married again in 1969, to George A. Olmstead, a brother of her first husband. George Olmstead's first wife died in 1942. George and Florence Olmstead made their home in the hamlet of Toddsville between Oneonta and Cooperstown. Florence died in 1984 and George in 1988; both are buried in the Milford Cemetery.

BERTHA OLIVE LOWE

Charles Olin and Mary C. (Welton) Lowe's youngest daughter, Bertha Olive Lowe, was born 28 December 1902, in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA. Bertha shared the same unstable childhood as her sister, Florence. She was six years younger than Florence and more often than not was left behind with her father when her mother and Florence took off for New York State. Bertha became her father and grandfather's favorite little girl. Grandpa Asahel wrote little notations in his journals that reflected his love and concern for Bertha: "One-and-half-year old Bertha, fat as a pumpkin." "Bertha always in mischief." "Bertha has a cold." "Bertha crawling all over me." "Bertha is healthy." "Bertha and Florence helped Grandpa put up a small barn on my 12-acre lot." "Bertha's birthday today, six years old."

Her father, Charles, kept her final school grades in his journals. He kept good records of her travels, such as this 1917 entry, "Bertha (15 years old) up at Oneonta with Ed. I went up to visit her and stayed to help Ed repair his mill."

Bertha Olive Lowe married Fred Pedrone in 1922. Fred worked as a bartender in Binghamton where the Pedrones made their home. Bertha was an accomplished dressmaker and started a business in her front parlor. A few years later the Pedrones moved to a business area of Binghamton where they established a dry cleaner and clothing repair business as well as Bertha's dress making business.

The two sisters kept in touch with each other and communicated by mail with their mother and father who were now living apart. Mary, their mother, eventually made her home with Bertha and Charles, their father, made his last years with Florence, just the reverse of the

childhood years.

In August, 1941, four months before the attack on Pearl Harbor, Fred and Bertha Pedrone took a belated wedding trip through seven eastern states, including Washington, D. C. Bertha died in October, 1994 at Chambersburg, PA.

Left to Right: Winton "Buddy" Olmstead, his stepfather, Harry Codner, Marguerite Pedrone, her father, Fred Pedrone, Elaine "Billy" Olmstead, Winton's sister, little Faith Ione Smith, daughter of Betty Olmstead and Harold Smith; granddad, Charlie Olin Lowe, Bertha Pedrone, Charlie's daughter and wife of Fred Pedrone and their son, Ronald Pedrone. ca 1938.

— Photos Courtesy of Olmstead Family —

Winton O. Olmstead's son, Dale Edwin Olmstead and his wife, Phyllis Thyme and sons, Dale E., Jr. and Arron Winton Olmstead — 1981.

Fred and Bertha (Lowe) Pedrone had five children. The oldest, Marguerite Elaine Pedrone, born 1924, Oneonta, married a minister, Fred Hickok and lived in Mann's Choice, PA. They, in turn, had six children: Fred Earl Hickok, born 1954 and married to Barbara Ann Erdman; Stephen Clyde Hickok, born 1954, who became a music teacher in Cuthbert, Georgia; Philip Wesley Hickok, born 1956; Deborah Elaine Hickok, born 1957, and married to Myron Harrod; Rebekah Hickok, born and died, 1960; and Naomi Beth Hickok, born 1961 and married Samuel Baker in 1982.

Fred and Bertha Pedrone's second child, Gwendolyn Annette Pedrone, was born and died in 1926. Their third child, Ronald James

Pedrone, born 1930 in Binghamton, NY, married Traceyane Gilette. When Ronald was ten years old he became a local celebrity, playing his guitar over a Binghamton radio station. Ronald and Traceyane had three children: Sharon, born 1959, and married R. Guading Thomas III in 1983; Christopher, born 1965; and Matthew, born 1967.

The fourth child of Fred and Bertha Pedrone was Lorraine Christine Pedrone, born 1942, who married Paul Zolinski. They had three Zolinski children: Paul, born 1967; Lisa, born 1968; and Renee, born 1972. Lorraine married a second time to James Ward.

The fifth and last child for Fred and Bertha was Dino Jonathan Pedrone, born 1945, 21 years after their first child. Dino is married to Roberta Griffin and they have four children: JoAnna, born 1976; Jonathan, born 1979; Adam, born 1981 and Nathaniel, born 1983. Dino Pedrone was the minister for the Open Door Mission, Chambersburg, PA and currently serving as minister of the New Testament Baptist Church, Miami, FL.

Chapter 42

Son, Leon A. Lowe, The Gurnsey Dairy Farmer

Leon A. Lowe, born 21 May 1885 in East Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA was the youngest child in the Asahel Lowe family. Leon was born 21 years after the birth of his oldest brother, John Franklin Lowe. Because he was the youngest, his parents and brothers allowed him to have more privileges. His last day in Jackson #9 School took place on 8 March 1898. Unlike his brothers, he always had a few coins jingling in his pockets. He started helping on his brother, Frank's farm, when he was about 10 to 11 years old. After he finished school, he worked on a neighboring Slocum farm off and on until he left home for New York State. He spent hours in the fall collecting and husking chestnuts and black walnuts, and sold them during the winter by the pound, uncracked. His brother, Charlie, took him hunting and fishing hoping to provide an interest for his young brother. However, Leon thought hunting and fishing were a waste of time, particularly if they returned empty-handed. From the start, Leon had an obsession for cold hard cash that he could warm up in his own pockets.

When Leon first went to New York State, he went directly to his brother, Edward's sawmills near Oneonta, NY. He came down with "mill fever", hooked on the life and skill of the logger and millright. Unfortunately, Edward was not in a position to pay wages on time for Leon's labor. Leon left, figuring that Edward owed him $75. After six years, Edward still hadn't paid him, so Leon sued for $150, double the amount. Edward paid Leon $75 plus interest and both were satisfied.

Leon returned to East Jackson,worked on some of the larger farms as a day laborer, attended the local churches and camp meetings, joined the "Maccabee" Lodge along with Charlie and began noticing girls. After two years of "doing a lot for nothing," as he put it, he returned to New York State where he found plenty of work for decent pay in the sawmills of western Delaware County.

According to correspondence with his father and Charlie, Leon

enjoyed working in the mills. He particularly liked the mill in China, near the western edge of Delaware County. The rooming house where Leon was living was run by a family with three young daughters, the oldest only 13 years old. They liked to play tricks on the male roomers. It was a happy home for everyone.

One of Leon's co-workers was even more addicted to hoarding his money than Leon. Because it was summertime, the fellow hid his roll of currency in the parlor stove. When a cold snap hit the area, the stove was fired up. Leon started to bank his savings.

The 13-year-old daughter brought joy into a room whenever she entered. She was always laughing and friendly and waited on the roomers with respect and dignity. Leon came down with the measles and was forced to remain home a few days. The lavish attention Leon received from the young girl plus her exceptional good looks gave Leon mixed emotions. In 1904, he wrote his father that he liked this girl very much and knew that she would mature quickly and make a good wife. He mentioned that both her parents liked him. He asked his father to journey to China wearing his best clothes and make himself "look as slick as a wax doll."

Any plans Leon had for this young girl's future fell through. He worked at a couple more mill sites before buying a small farm between Sidney Center and Franklin, Delaware County, NY.

Meanwhile Leon made a few more trips back to Susquehanna County. As a young lad, Leon made a daily trip to the Grant and Mary (Miller) Brown farm to pick up a jug of milk when the Lowe's cow was in her dry mode. The Browns were just married and starting their family. Now, 15 years later, Ethel Brown was a 16-year-old beauty who caught the attention of Leon. Ethel Brown and Leon Lowe were married in Jackson in 1910; the marriage consent was signed by her mother.

Leon and Ethel (Brown) Lowe had two children: Leona G. Lowe, born 1911; and Burrell "Buster" Lowe, born 1912. Ethel Brown Lowe died in Sidney Center in November of 1915.

Leon and his young family experienced six years of lonesome and troublesome times before his second marriage, in 1921, to Nellie Clearwater. Nellie was a mature, 34-year-old woman of Leon's age, and was just as set in her ways as Leon.

Nellie's parents were well off. The Clearwater family was early

inhabitants of Franklin, giving as much back to the community as they took. When Leon married their "old maid daughter", her parents gladly gave a large farm, free and clear in North Franklin as their wedding present. Leon purchased the next door farm and made the total one of the more prosperous dairy farms in Delaware County with a Guernsey herd bred for show and milk production.

LEONA G. LOWE

Leona G. Lowe eloped with her cousin, LeGrande Olin, two days before her 18th birthday in 1929. They were married by the Justice of the Peace in Harpersfield, Delaware County, NY. Leona's father and stepmother were furious over her action and publicly disowned her. LeGrande and Leona Olin spent one of their honeymoon nights with the George O. Olin Family in Tioga County, NY. LeGrande and George were half brothers, sons of Orva Lee Olin of Jackson, PA.

Leon A. and Nellie Clearwater Lowe relaxing after a hard day's work on their farms in North Franklin, Delaware County, NY.

— *Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family*

This author remembers the night that LeGrande and his bride, Leona, stayed in our home. As a seven-year-old, one of my evening chores was to walk "across lots" to the Best farm and bring back a two-quart pail of milk. This particular night, my father said that he would go after the milk. What he also did, on the sly, was alert the neighbors that a honeymooning couple was staying over night at his house. Around midnight when all was supposed to be quiet, we were awakened by loud noises from ringing bells, banging pans, blowing horns, and general "hootin' and hollerin'." The clamor continued until Uncle LeGrande and Aunt Leona made their appearance. The "horning" party lasted until after 2 am.

LeGrande and Leona (Lowe) Olin were the proud parents of a daughter, Mildred Ethel Olin, born 1930 in Susquehanna, PA. The OLIN Family soon moved to Binghamton, NY where LeGrande found work as a salesman for Snowflake Baking Company of Syracuse, NY which operated through a distribution outlet on Chapin Street. LeGrande died at age 26 of a heart attack while on the job. He fell to the floor with no warning while waiting for his goods to be loaded for his route.

Leona Lowe Olin married a second time to Edward Jacobson, ca 1936. Mildred, her daughter, tried to adjust to her stepfather when disaster struck again. Her mother, Leona Lowe Olin Jacobson, died

—Photo Courtesy of Mildred Douglas

Edward and Leona Lowe Olin Jacobson, ca 1936 at Kerrs Creek, Walton, Delaware County, NY

suddenly at her Oneonta home in 1941. Mildred, now 11 years old, was motherless and fatherless. Her stepfather was unreliable and no comfort. It was the height of the Depression years and who in the family had the means and desire to take Mildred into their home? Her grandfather, Leon Lowe, had the means, but no desire. He was still burning over his daughter's elopement. Mildred spent a couple of years at her Uncle Burrell's home on Mount Carmel, near East Windsor, NY and a couple of weeks at the home of George O. Olin, before her grandfather made arrangements for her to be a ward of the state. When

she became 16 years old, she started to work for her own living in Cooperstown, NY in factories, restaurants and bakeries.

Mildred Olin met and married Gordon Douglas in 1949. Gordon and his brother operate one of the larger Christmas tree farms in NY State. Mildred and Gordon Douglas have no children.

Gordon and Mildred Olin Douglas celebrate Christmas of 1994 in their home at Garrattsville, NY. Notice Mildred's mother, Leona, picture on the wall.

—Photo Courtesy of Mildred Douglas

She has become an accomplished seamstress. Gordon and Mildred Douglas are planning to retire at their second home on one of their farm lakes. Throughout her life, Mildred has never complained. She was a beautiful and serene girl who has turned into a beautiful and serene lady.

Leon A. Lowe died, 1957, in Franklin, NY. Nellie Clearwater Lowe died, 1965, in Franklin, and both are buried in the Clearwater plot on the Center Hill in the Franklin Cemetery.

Leon and Ethel (Brown) Lowe's son, Burrell, A. Lowe, known as "Buster", left his father's farm when he reached his majority in 1933 and married his first wife that same year. He and Hallean Stephens had two children: Marvin, born 1934 and died 1935; and Naomi Hallean Lowe, born 1933. Naomi was married three times: No. 1 to — Culifer; No. 2 to — Jarden and had at least one child, Sharon Jarden who married — Brown and lives near Syracuse, NY; No. 3 to — Marks. Naomi H. Lowe Culifer Jarden Marks died 1984 and is buried

in the Triangle Cemetery, Broome County, NY. Hallean Stephen's maiden name was Harp. The Stephens family raised and gave her their name. Burrell A. Lowe has nine grandchildren from his first marriage.

Mildred Olin Douglas, daughter of Leona Lowe and LeGrande Olin gave us a pretty smile in 1988.

— Photos Courtesy of George O. Olin Family —

Mildred Olin Douglas' husband, Gordon Douglas, and his brother operate one of New York State's largest Christmas Tree Farms, located in Garrattsville, Otsego County.

Burrell A. Lowe's second marriage took place in Lanesboro, Susquehanna County, PA in 1940. He married Irene Marion Gumaer who was born 1922. Due to family confusion over some records, I apologize for any inaccuracies in this part of the Lowe family. Burrell and Irene Lowe had six children; Robert Albert Lowe was born 1941 and died short of being three years old in 1943; Irene Alberta Lowe was born in 1942 at Binghamton, NY and married Clarence V. Wilcox in 1959 at Binghamton. They had five Wilcox children: Clarence V. Jr., born 1959 and married to Rawnee Jeronica; Debra, born 1960 and married to Paul Winter; James, born 1962 and married to Astrid _____ ; Samuel, born 1967; and Randy, born 1970 and married to April _____.

Wanda E. Lowe, born 1943, married Raymond Lance, 1961. Wanda worked in the nursing profession. The Lances lived in Castle Creek, Broome County, NY and are now living in West Palm Beach, Florida. Wanda and Raymond had five children: Raymond Jr., born 1962; Luke, born 1963; Matthew, born 1965; Rebecca, born 1966; and Gabriel, born 1968.

Wilhelmina Esther Lowe, born 1945 married Joseph Wilcox, 1962 and had four Wilcox children: Rodger, born 1962; Penny, born 1963; Joseph, born 1964; and Ronnie, born 1966.

Wendell "Spike" LeRoy Lowe, born 1946, married Thalia Jones in 1968. Spike served in the US Navy, 1963-1966. Spike and Thalia's children were: Robert Lowe, born 1969; Carolyn Lowe, born 1970; Christopher Lowe, born 1973; Nichole Lowe, born 1975 and Jason.

— Photo Courtesy of Mildred Douglas

The last of Burrell and Irene (Gumaer) Lowe's children was Robin A. Lowe, was born 1955 and died when four-and-half years old in 1959.

Uncle "Buster" Burrell Lowe at his Florida retirement plantation, January, 1994

—Photo Courtesy of Mildred Douglas

Preparing for an early tractor trailer load of Xmas trees scheduled for delivery to the New York City markets from the Douglas Brothers Tree Farm, November, 1994.

Burrell Lowe worked on different farms and was a union truck driver for a large trucking company in Binghamton, NY for many years. He retired to the State of Florida after his second wife, Irene, died in 1984.

CHART - 19 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

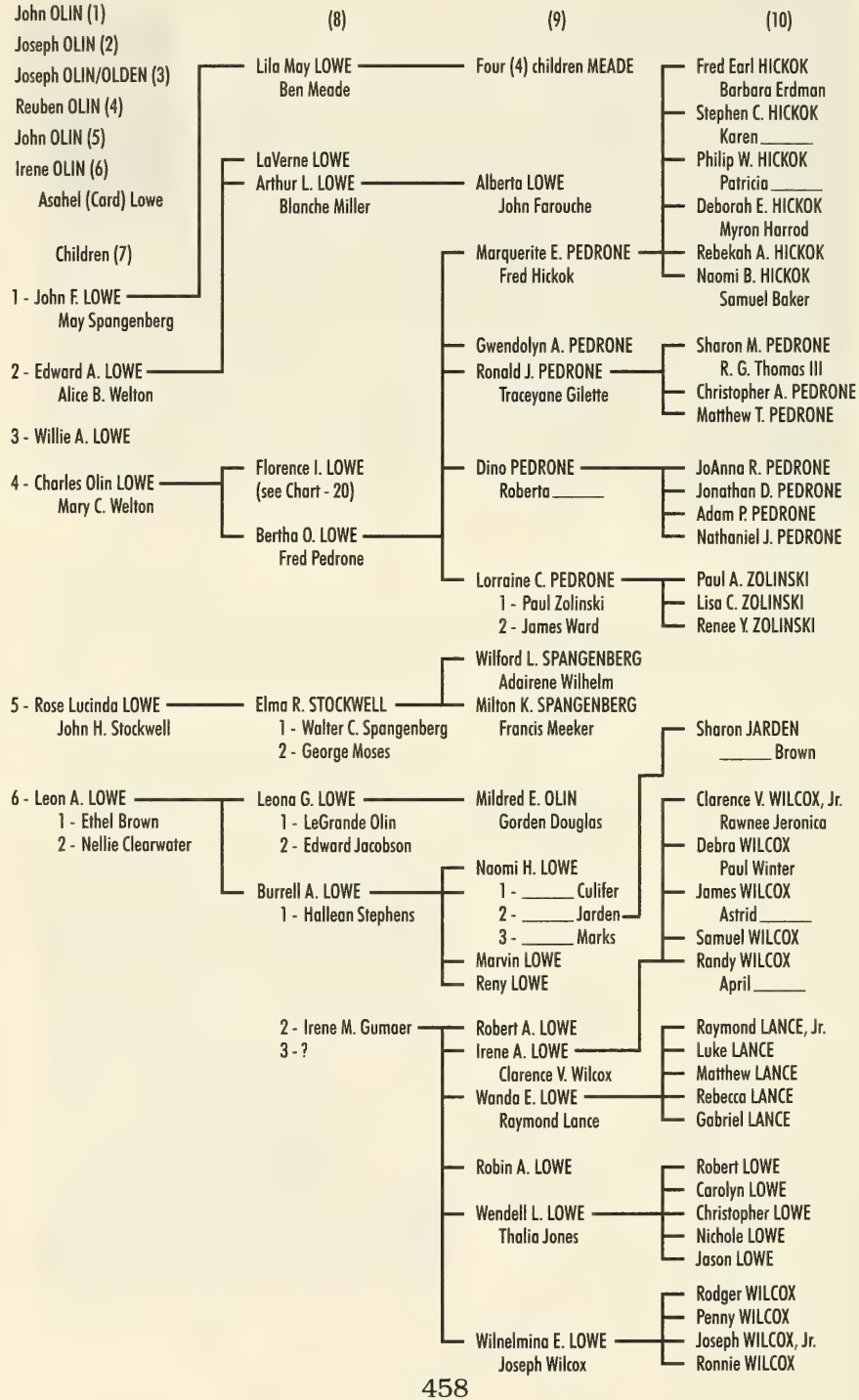
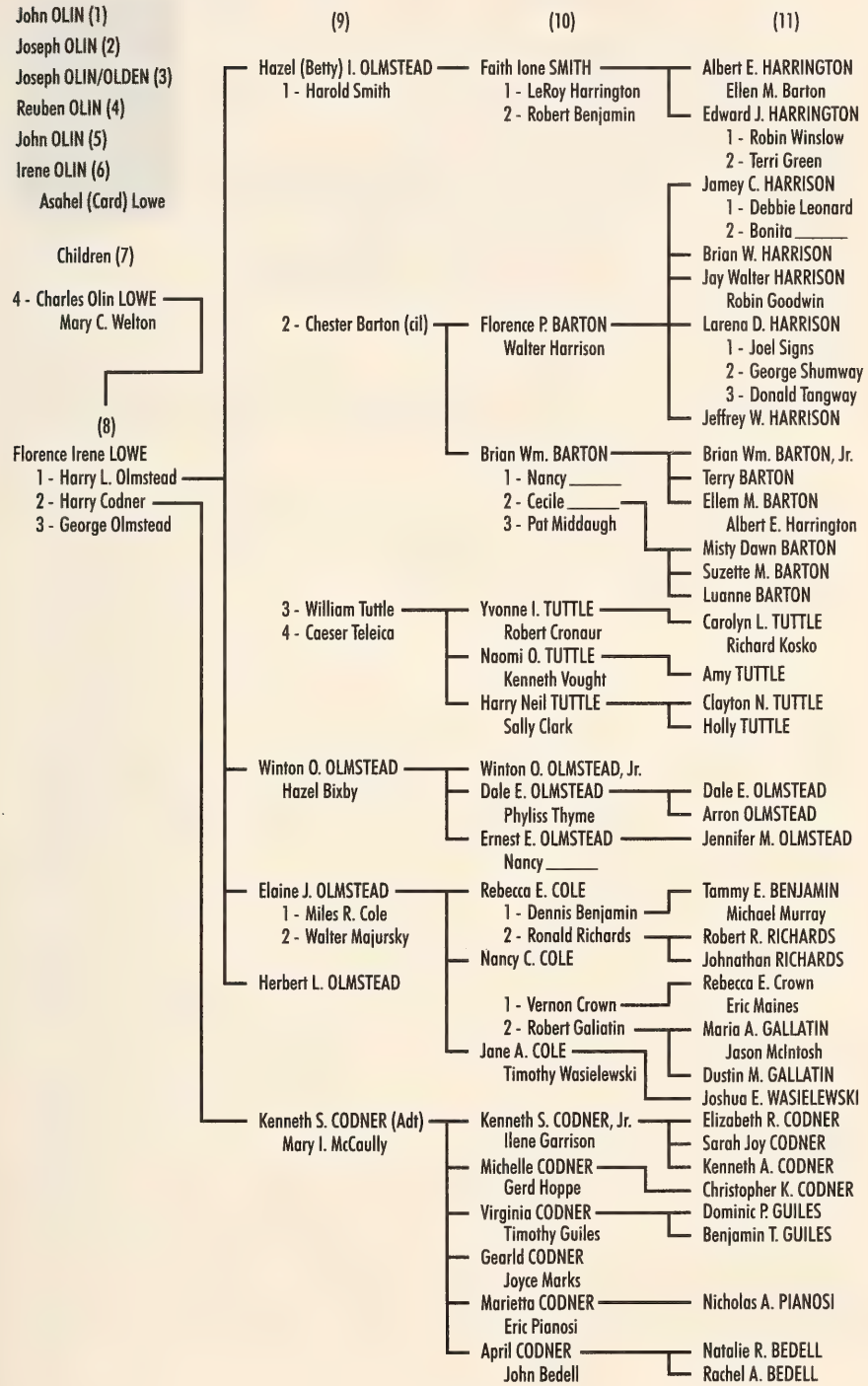


CHART - 20 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS



PART XI — Irene Lowe, Progenitress of the OLIN Lowes

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PART XII

Earl OLIN'S Family Perpetuating the OLIN Surname

"Every man is his own ancestor,
and every man is his own heir.
He devises his own future,
And inherits his own past!"

—Frederick H. Hedge

Chapter 43

Son, Orva L. Olin and His Family Problems

Orva Lee Olin, born 1864 in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA, the only son of Earl and Abigail T. (Carpenter) Olin was the second male grandchild of John and Ruth Culver Olin preceeded by three months by John Franklin Lowe, the oldest child of Asahel and Irene Olin Lowe. However, Orva fulfilled the traditional requirement of being the first grandchild to carry on with the OLIN surname, and he proved to be the only one in the John and Ruth Culver Olin branch of Reuben Olin. He became the prince of the OLIN Family and played his part well until the arrival of a sister, Edna, six years later.

The Earl OLIN Family lived next door to Jackson #9, a one-room school on the top of Slocum Hill. So, it was natural for Orva to dash across the field for his noon lunch, usually taking a friend or two with him. When his parents moved down to a farm on Tunkhannock Creek Road, Orva was obliged to finish his eight grades at the Jackson #2 School where he had to carry his lunch.

Earl Olin died unexpectedly from typhoid fever in 1875 and left his wife, Abbie, with two young children: Orva, age 11, and little Edna, not quite five years old. Orva completed his grade schooling the next

year. His mother made arrangements for Orva's future by signing him to a Master Carpenter to learn the carpentry trade. His mother kept him at home during the next eight years while Orva walked a mile or so to his job. He received very little pay, but gained a lot of experience. The first four years, he performed simple, ordinary jobs while watching and listening to his mentor. As his assignments became more complicated, he used new and complicated tools. One special requirement that Orva needed to complete his apprenticeship was to make his own tool chest to protect his tools from the elements and theft and to provide a means of transporting them from job to job.

Orva began designing his tool chest in his spare time when he was 16 years old and completed it two years later. The chest was 22" high, 22" wide and 40" long with an iron-rimmed, hinged cover and a built-in lock. Orva made his chest to withstand abuse with its mortised joints and provisions for holding various sizes of trays. His mentor approved Orva's efforts and supplied him with a few basic tools; but he needed many more.

Meanwhile, his mother had married a Mr. Potter who was living at the Tunkhannock Creek farm. Orva's mother and stepfather complimented his accomplishment and provided him with a few dollars for additional tools. Orva saw that his mother was happy in her second marriage, so, because he was not interested in the farm inherited from his father, he signed it over to his mother and stepfather. Determined to find more money for tools, in 1883 Orva went to Scranton, PA to accept a salesman position for electric and magnetic rollers. The following news item appeared in July 14th *Susquehanna County Newspaper*:

> "Dr. O. L. Olin, from Scranton, traveling salesman for Prof. Blanchard's electric and magnetic roller, is offering relief to suffering humanity in this community. With the mercury at 86 degrees in the shade, a few can say, 'I have no ailment!' It's a downright pleasure to hear a glib-tongued salesman relate his beneficent deeds." [sic]

Orva held the deceptive title of doctor for less than a year, just long enough to pay for the rest of his carpentry tools and to become a married man.

During Orva's travels as a salesman in southwestern Susquehanna

County, he met Ida R. Corey, daughter of John and Catherine (Hendricks) Corey of Alford. One of Ida's brothers, James Gay Corey married Margaret_____ ca 1819 and had three sons: Malcom J., Emesel H.; and William G. all raised in Binghamton, NY. One of Ida Corey sisters, "Jennie" Mary Jane, married Abner A. Worden, ca 1893. The Wordens had two children: William John, who never married and made the U. S. Navy his career; and Nina May, who married Frank H. Knox, a plumber in Binghamton and Deposit, NY. As of this writing, Nina May Worden Knox is 99 years old, according to her daughter, Marion A. Freer.

Orva Lee Olin and Ida R. Corey were married in Alford, Susquehanna County, PA on November 2, 1884. Ida was born December 11, 1866 in Alford. The newly married Olins made their home in Jackson, PA. It would be four years before the birth of the first of their three sons. Orva was on his own securing carpentry jobs wherever he could. He and Ida found it difficult to make ends meet until the winter of 1888.

The Great Blizzard of March 12, 1888 crippled the northeastern United States. Over 400 deaths were reported. The *American Weather Stories* gave an eye witness account of the storm:

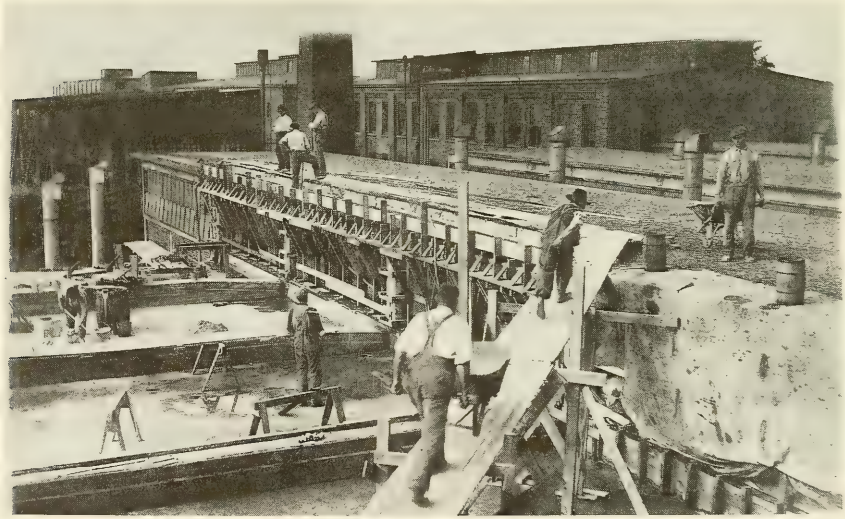
"The snow fell so fast and was caught by the wild winds and hurled everywhere . . . it came with such force into the eyes of the pedestrian as to blind him; melting . . . it would remain frozen fast to the eye, so that it was his constant work to protect his sight. The snow would follow the breath . . . into the lungs . . . fill them with water, nearly choking him."

All businesses, including the farmer's chores, ceased for two days before the two-foot snowfall with drifts up to 50 feet were attacked by anxious residents. The heavy snows caused many buildings to collapse providing work for carpenters to repair or replace them. Orva's work picked up and then he heard of a call for carpenters to go to Endicott, Broome County, NY.

Endicott was experiencing rapid growth, both residential and industrial. Earlier buildings were not built to meet high or even adequate structural standards. The need to meet contractual dates came first. Consequently, scores of buildings were damaged by the heavy snows and made work for extra carpenters for higher than normal

wages, again in the name or urgency. Two large shoe manufacturing companies were expanding their operations as were two large forges. After most snow repair work was completed, Orva hired out to the contractors in charge of building forms for the concrete work in the four-story building being erected for Endicott Johnson Shoe Company. He liked this exhilarating challenge that brought him top dollar as a carpenter. As he gained experience and confidence, he organized his own group of carpenters and laborers and successfully bid on portions of contracts that his crew could handle. It was hard, demanding work which paid well, but the price was that he only saw his wife and son, Earl, about once a month for two days.

A severe panic in 1892 clamped a death grip on the investors of the country. A sense of doom settled around the nation as panic heightened, causing manufacturers to slow down or stop production completely, tradesmen boarded up their establishments, and farmers eked out only enough for their own existence. However, Endicott Johnson Shoe Manufacturing Company continued to have faith in their country's ability to recover, and continued to manufacture shoes and continued with their construction program. Orva Olin worked less hours and received less pay, but was fortunate to have a full-time job.



—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

Typical building construction in Endicott, NY during the early 1900s. Master Carpenters, such as Orva O. Olin became foremen in charge of a crew during framing and building of forms for concrete. Note the bare feet on the man pulling a wheelbarrow up the ramp.

Orva roomed in a hotel on Washington Avenue, Endicott that caught fire on a rainy afternoon in April 1896. Since he happened to be between jobs, his chest of tools was in the rear hall of the hotel where it caught fire. Two husky men dragged the 250-pound tool chest into the street. Rain quenched the fire, saving his chest and tools, but all of his clothes and other personal belongings were lost. Orva's tool chest has survived for five generations. The charred area on the top and two sides bear evidence of the 1896 fire.

Back in Jackson, Ida Olin bore three sons: Earl Carpenter Olin, born 1888; George Omar Olin, born 1891; and Russell Lee Olin, born 1895. The boys' great-grandmother, Eliza Carpenter, mother of Abigail Tingley Carpenter Olin, personally presented a family Bible to Orva and Ida Olin. It has roughly four generations of births, deaths, and marriages relating to the OLIN Family. On the back of the front cover, Eliza I. Carpenter wrote a special note:

"This Bible is presented to Orva L. and Ida R. Olin by their grandmother, Eliza I. Carpenter, who has read it through by course, twice, besides, reading it much by 'Books and Chapters.' She has found it both interesting and profitable and it is her wish that her grandchildren read it daily and follow its precepts."

Another of Ida Olin's prize possessions was her nickel-plated, wooden handled, hair curling iron. Ida heated this iron over a special kerosene lamp called a "Peerless Lamp Chimney Stove." The iron was inserted through a hole in the cover on top of the glass globe, to keep the iron away from the flame.

Ida Corey Olin, ca 1894.

—Courtesy of
George O. Olin Family

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

Ida Olin's *Crazy Signature Quilt* completed, 1894

Crazy quilts were very popular in Susquehanna County during the last decade of the 19th century. Making quilts brought women together often, not only to share their sewing expertise, but to swap local gossip. Ida Olin finished her Crazy quilt in 1894, one year after the death of her sister-in-law, Edna Olin Burdick, and the year before her third son, Russell Lee, was born. The quilt has a heavy backing of multi-colored brown flannel material. Ida used scraps of all kinds of cloth; heavy cotton, silk, wool, satin, velvet and taffeta that she had collected over the years. She laid out the pieces in a disoriented patchwork and outlined each piece with a running brier or chicken foot stitch in heavy yellow thread. This crazy quilt was then "signed" with over 40 different dates, names and initials. Some of the OLIN Family names include her two sons: Earl and George; her husband, Orva; her mother-in-law, Abigail; her sister, Jennie; her cousins Rose, Mary, and Leon Lowe; her sister-in-law, Edna and daughter Louise; and Omar Olin and his three daughters: Carrie, Daisy, and Minnie.

Ida Corey Olin never regained her health after the birth of her third son Russell. She died five weeks after his birth on January 3, 1896 at

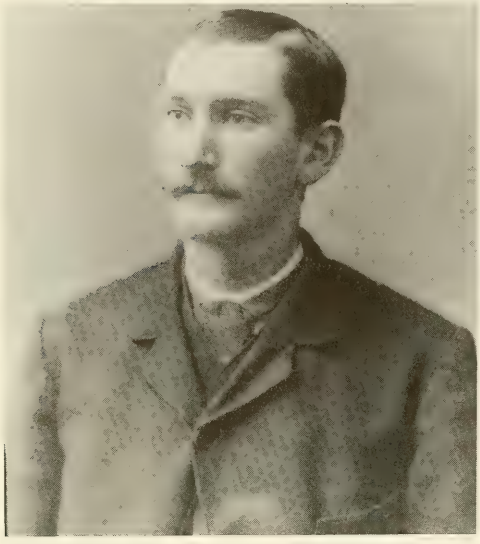
home in Jackson, PA and is buried in the Jackson Baptist Cemetery. Ida's death broke the peaceful, cooperative routine between Orva's work away from home and his family in Jackson. Ida had learned to live with her husband's absence by devoting her time to providing a happy home for her children and by keeping active in church and neighborhood projects.

Orva had a flourishing contracting business in Endicott, but now faced direct responsibility for the care of his children. Except for his mother, all other responsible family members had either died or moved out of the area. Orva tried having his mother, Abigail Olin Potter, care for the boys, but she soon gave up because of her declining health. Six months after Ida's death, Orva hurriedly married Nettie Estabrook, the 25-year-old daughter of Sidney J. and Minerva (Benson) Estabrook of Jackson. At the time of this marriage, September 2,1896, his son Earl was eight years old, George was almost five, and Russell was not yet a year old.

Certainly this ready made family was a great challenge to Nettie. She resented her husband's absence from Jackson, and it was hard not to allow herself to think and act negatively towards her stepsons. The next few years were not happy for the Olin family. Orva felt pressured to spend more time at home, to sacrifice income, to try to keep harmony within his family. When the brother's half-sister, Edna Mae Olin, was born in 1899 and died two months later, the effect on Nettie was to practically shut out the existence of her stepsons. The following year, 1900, another half-sister, Frances Wanda Olin, was born and Nettie devoted all of her time to caring for her, and ignored the boys. Orva was faced with saving his marriage and his sons by farming them out for proper care so he could earn an income.

Finally, in 1901, Orva took action. Fifteen-year-old Earl had completed grade school, so Orva decided to take him to Endicott to work with his crew. Ten-year-old George was indentured out until age 21 to John A. Jones, a farmer in south Gibson, Susquehanna County. South Gibson was only six miles south of Jackson, but it could have been a thousand miles because George did not see his brothers for several years. Cousin Minnie Olin, who was taking care of her father, Omar, on the Olin homestead offered to take care of six-year-old Russell. Minnie proved to be an excellent surrogate mother, and gave

her same loving care to Russell as she did her father. All three brothers were probably better off in their new surroundings, but the brothers were lonely for each other. After approximately six years, with the advent of penny picture postal cards, the brothers found a way to correspond with each other and with their cousins and friends.



Orva Lee Olin, ca 1894

— Photos Courtesy of George O. Olin Family —

Orva Lee Olin and Nettie Estabrook Olin, ca 1938.

The OLIN Family now consisting of Orva, his wife, Nettie, his son, Earl, and their daughter, Frances Wanda, settled into a reconciled, contented life. In 1904, Orva approached Colonel Frank Benson, his cousin by marriage and a master finishing carpenter, to become a partner in a woodworking mill in Endicott, NY. They purchased a lot and erected a two-story mill at the corner of Oak Hill and Clark Streets in the Village of Endicott, Town of Union. They called their mill "Olin and Benson Planeing Mill, Finishers of Fine Lumber." The mill was a success. Orva moved his family from Jackson, PA to a house on Oak Hill Avenue and Colonel moved his family to Grant Avenue, both in Endicott, NY.

Nettie was delighted with the move. Intrigued with the "wheeling and dealing" of land speculators in 1904, she invested her savings in the purchase of a sizable tract of land in the Town of Union that was subdivided by Squires Land Company, formerly the Sliter Day Seagers Farm on the north side of Clark Street along Oak Hill Avenue. The Olin and Benson Mill was on part of her lot. Nettie Olin sold portions of her lot to Lewis Spangenburg in 1905, to George Stowell in 1907, and to Omar Olin in 1912. Omar had sold property to Colonel Benson in 1907. When Orva and Colonel sold out, Omar took over the sale of the mill contents in 1912. The contents were listed as: all the engines, boilers, shafting, belting, machinery, tools, and other fixtures.

Nettie continued to buy and sell, and discovered that she could compete with the best of speculators. She became the dominating force in the Olin household. Orva, overwhelmed, took his family back to their farm in Ararat, Susquehanna County, where a son, LeGrande E. Olin, was born in 1907. Nettie bought and sold Susquehanna farms, and owned as many as five at one time.

Orva, responding to Nettie's new-found investing skills, became moody and let his carpentry business slide until he gave it up all together. He managed to acquire two pieces of property in Lanesboro that he recorded in his own name: Nettie owned all the rest. Orva became dependent upon his wife's income. So he exercised two other interests.

Orva became known as a water dowser in demand through the Southern Tier of New York State and Northern Tier of Pennsylvania. He enjoyed helping many families secure an adequate supply of water.

NOTE: This author was taught by his grandfather, Orva Olin, the fundamentals of water dowsing. We used a limber forked stick cut from an apple tree. The ends of the two forks were held tightly in our hands with the butt end pointing straight up. As we walked in the area where the family wanted the well, if there was no downward pull of the stick, it meant that there was no water evident in the ground. If we could not forcibly keep the stick from pointing toward the ground, it meant that there was water and that they should dig their well there. It's really not quite that simple but believe me, if water is evident in quantity, I was unable to keep that stick from twisting around in my hands and pointing downward.

Ever since Orva was a young man, he had the desire to cut stone. His farm in Jackson had shelf rock exposed seams that Orva opened up. It was a low-grade slate not thick enough for flagstone sidewalks, but he learned how to separate the layered seams and cut the slate to specific sizes. When Irene Olin Lowe died in 1900, her husband, Asahel Lowe mentioned in his journal that he went over to Orva Olin's Farm for a stone to put on her grave in the East Jackson Cemetery.

Two of Nettie Olin's Farms had potential as commercial quarry operations. The one on Bethel Hill, Harmony Township, supported two quarries that were opened by Orva. They produced one-inch, hard flagstones for sidewalks and six-inch stones for curbing. Some veins were red or blue as well as the natural color. After opening the quarries, Orva would allow professional stone cutters in to work them and collect royalties of $.0075 per foot of stone that left the farm.

Orva and Nettie Olin finished out their remaining years living next door to the Jackson Baptist Church. Both of their surviving children died unexpectedly in 1933 in the prime of their lives. Orva died 31 January 1942 and Nettie died 20 August 1947.

Chapter 44

Grandson, Earl Carpenter Olin of Rochester, NY

Earl Carpenter Olin, the oldest son of Orva O. and Ida Corey Olin, graduated from Grade 8 in 1901 at the Jackson School system and was pronounced to be the brightest scholar in the class. The 13-year old was expected to follow in his father's footsteps and become a master carpenter. However, Earl was not the least bit interested in working with wood in any shape or manner. He enjoyed working with figures and wished to become an accountant. Earl, at 15, was the envy of his local peers when he accompanied his father to Endicott where he shoveled sand into cement mixers for his father. The next year, his father and stepmother moved to Endicott when Orva and Colonel Benson began building their two-story planeing mill. After it was completed, Earl was assigned to remove and stack the finished lumber from the large modern planer and edger machine. Earl complained that it was a boring, tedious job. Exasperated, his father gave Earl the company books, including the payroll to do, expecting Earl to complain again. He did not complain. Instead, with extra time on his hands, he took over the total bookkeeping for a next door competitor, Endicott Lumber and Box Company, as well!

Earl's parents lived on Odell Avenue, a few blocks from the Mill, and Earl paid them for his room and board. Although Earl enjoyed doing the book work for the two mills, he felt he wasn't getting enough money. He got a job with the Endicott Johnson Shoe Company, loading and wheeling finished, tanned, cow hides to the men in the stamping department. The operators of those machines had their wrist tied to the stamping action to prevent severing of a finger or a hand when the press came down to cut out a leather sole or other leather shoe parts. Still carelessness happened, and Earl was sickened at the sight of someone losing a finger. He left EJs and returned to the Mill working for Colonel Benson since his father had sold his portion to Colonel in 1906. He worked two years for Benson and paid room and

board to Carrie Benson on Grant Avenue in Endicott.

By 1908, 20-year-old Earl Olin was an experienced mill operator and good at keeping company books. Endicott Lumber and Box Company hired Earl as their foreman and to oversee their books at a substantial increase in salary.

Meanwhile, Earl was enjoying his social life. Although penny postal cards were popular during the late 1800s, they became even more popular in the early 1900s when photo and colored postal cards were introduced. The address side of the new postal card was split into two sections: the address, and space for a brief message. The card's reverse side displayed a family photo, a comic, an event, building scenes, or special holiday sentiments. Earl and his brothers, George and Russell began postal card communications in 1906. Earl took time to make his own personal cards for special occasions. He was sending to and receiving cards from his cousins and buddies and, of course, dozens of female acquaintances for Earl Olin was very popular with the young ladies. He boasted that he had eaten Sunday dinners in more homes than the local preacher.

Earl was upgrading his bookkeeping skills by attending special classes in high school, hoping to improve his chances for a position as an accountant. None were available in the Triple Cities area so he went to Rochester, Monroe County, NY. He left Endicott in the spring of 1909, but he was disappointed with Rochester's lack of job opportunities. A good friend who had headed west working through the Chicago stockyards, the mid-west grain fields, and Washington State apple orchards wrote to Earl, suggesting that Earl go West to Washington. Instead, Earl returned to Broome County to room in Binghamton and work in the Palace Restaurant and mend the hearts of a few select girlfriends.

During the short time Earl spent in Rochester, he met a proud and haughty divorcee, Edith M. Escott. She was visiting her sister and brother-in-law, Mariam and George Reese. The Escott girls were daughters of William and Ann (Morgans) Escott of Wellsboro, Tioga County, PA. William and Ann were born and married in the County of Glamorganshire, Wales, and came to America in 1862, settled on Welsh Hill near the Village of Wellsboro. The Escotts raised six children. William died in 1882 at Wellsboro and Ann died, 1919, at the home of her daughter, Edith Escott Olin in Rochester. Edith Escott was a

staunch supporter of "Women's Suffrage," the fight to give women the right to vote.

The Escott Family in Wellsboro, PA visit the Reece Family in Rochester, NY, ca 1910. George and Mariam Escott Reece and sons, Willie and Eddie are standing in front. Edith Escott Olin is sitting in the center with her large hat and her mother, Ann Morgans Escott is looking over her shoulder. The others are Edith's brothers and sisters.

— Photos Courtesy of Earl C. Olin Family —

Edith Escott Olin, ca 1910

Earl C. Olin and Edith M. Escott were married May 1, 1911 in Rochester. He served as bookkeeper for various firms, but never gained the title of accountant. In 1916, Earl became the live-in manager of a rooming house.

Finally, in 1921, Earl secured a position with the Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation where he stayed for 32 years before retiring in 1953. He worked his way up to the foreman's position in the Company's East Station where gas was manufactured from coke. In 1949, Earl Olin received a letter of praise and a monetary award for his action during an explosion at the East Station. The letter reads:

> *"I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the splendid work you did in connection with the explosion of last Saturday. Your immediate action in shutting down the exhausters when you sensed trouble undoubtedly saved us from a much more serious accident. There is no question but what if there had been a delay of even a matter of minutes, there would have been conditions develop that might have resulted in a serious interruption of gas supply, with the resulting problems and hazards to our customers."*

Left to right: Earl Pattison, his daughter, Evelyn Pattison Olin, his grandson, James Kirk Olin and his son-in-law, Earl Carpenter Olin at the 1958 OLIN Reunion in Windsor, NY.

—Photo Courtesy of Earl C. Olin Family

Edith Escott Olin died of diabetic coma January 3, 1939. Earl Olin married Evelyn Lucille Pattison, November 3, 1939. Evelyn was born in 1907, daughter of Earl H. Pattison and Lillian Stock who moved to Rochester about 1915. Earl Pattison was a pattern maker for Symington Works and American Laundry Machining Company. He participated in making cast nut crackers, book ends and special family momento castings.

Evelyn Pattison graduated from the Rochester West High School, worked as clerk and typist in several businesses. She finally became the clerk issuing dog licenses for the Rochester City Office.

Evelyn enjoyed traveling. One trip with her parents included the 1936 Texas Centennial, Mexico, California, the northwestern states and western Canada. After her marriage to Earl, they continued their travels in the States and abroad to Spain, Portugal, and Italy.

JAMES KIRK OLIN

Earl and Evelyn Olin had a son, James Kirk Olin, born Easter Sunday, April 9, 1944, in the last years of World War II. Evelyn kept a baby book in her Rochester home and at the time, in near tears, commented, "We can't take any pictures of Jim because film is so scarce and I hope he never has to go to war!" Evelyn told Jim that she didn't want to name him Earl because both her husband and father were named Earl and it would cause too much confusion. She liked the name, Bruce, but didn't like the initials "B. O." She liked the name James and knew of only one other James Olin. She said she picked "Kirk" as his middle name because she thought if Jim ever got an office with a glass door, James Kirk Olin would look nice in gold letters.

—Photo Courtesy of Earl C. Olin Family

Lillian Stock Pattison and Earl K. Pattison, 1919, parents of Evelyn Pattison Olin.

As a child, Jim had difficulty making friends. Most of the children on their Rochester street went to a nearby parochial school, but Jim walked nearly a mile to Public School #44. In addition the OLIN Family spent summers at their cottage on Lake Ontario. Jim enrolled in Madison High School, but his parents thought that Jim should have the opportunity for a better education and a better social environment in a military school. Jim graduated in the class of 1962 from the Greenbrier Military School in Lewisburg, West Virginia.

His first job upon returning to Rochester was distributing free soap samples door to door. Jim attended Rochester Institute of Technology for two years, and majored in Chemistry. Years later, by attending evening classes, Jim received a BS Degree in Business Administration.

Jim spent considerable effort trying to avoid the draft during the Vietnam era. He enlisted just prior to receiving his draft notice; he hoped to keep away from a combat role. He was sent to Army Photographic Equipment Repair School at Fort Monmouth, NJ and was assigned to a repair company at Long Binh, Vietnam. After his required tour in Vietnam, he received notice that his mother had suffered a severe stroke which resulted in loss of speech and mobility. Jim Olin received a hardship separation from the Army to help his aging father care for his mother.

Recognizing the need to separate himself from his parents, Jim left for St. Petersburg, Florida in 1974. His father, Earl Carpenter Olin, died the following year on the 15th of March in Rochester, NY.

Jim met Frederick Lee Remus in Florida and formed a partnership. Fred was very family oriented and helped Jim reconcile his differences with his mother who had moved to Florida to live with Jim.

—Photo Courtesy of Earl Olin Family

Earl Carpenter Olin, ca 1890.

When they returned to Rochester they winterized the small cottage on Lake Ontario near Hilton, and made it cheery, warm and

comfortable. However, Evelyn seemed lonely during the day while Jim worked for the Monroe County Department of Social Services, and Fred worked at Gannett Newspapers. Evelyn returned to the Hill Haven Nursing Home where she received the attention she craved. She called it her home, participated in many parties, clubs and usually went out with Jim to eat twice a week.

—Photo Courtesy of Earl Olin Family

James Kirk Olin and his mother, Evelyn Pattison

Fred and Jim dissolved their partnership after 16 years, and remained good friends. Jim is currently forming a partnership with Calvin Kok Sein Lee, a Graphic Artist, from Burma and NY City.

James Kirk Olin and his companion, Frederick Lee Remus, rest their bikes along Lake Front Drive, near Hilton, NY in 1989.

—Photo Courtesy of Earl Olin Family

Evelyn Pattison Olin died December 20, 1994 and was buried next to her husband Earl C. Olin and his first wife, Edith Escott Olin, in Whitehaven Memorial Park in Pittsford, NY.

Jim continued his interest in photography and made an annual photo calendar which he presented to his mother each Christmas. He collects victorian Stereo View cards, hikes and enjoys traveling.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

The Olin brothers, Russell, George and Earl share memories at the 1948 Olin Reunion hosted by Russell at his home in Montrose, PA. Russell died 15 November 1948.

Chapter 45

Grandson, George Omar Olin, WWI Veteran

Orva Lee and Ida (Corey) Olin's second son, George Omar Olin, was born on America's Columbus Day, 12 October 1891 in Jackson, Susquehanna County, PA. His mother died when he was four years old. The only recollection that he had of his mother was a vague memory of riding in a train that had his mother's body enroute to her burial.

George's stepmother, Nettie Estabrook Olin did not take kindly to George and his two brothers. Consequently, the boys spent a good share of their early years with great uncle Omar Olin and his daughters: Carrie, Daisy and Minnie. In 1901, when George was ten years old, his father indentured him out to John A. Jones, a farmer in South Gibson, about six miles below Jackson, PA. Jones agreed to provide a bed, meals, clothes and eight grades of schooling for George in return for his labor on the farm until George reached his majority in 1912.

Jones was a tolerant and patient man as well as a progressive farmer specializing in honey production. He placed scores of bee hives throughout eastern Susquehanna County. When George left the Jones' farm in 1912, Jones provided him with a glowing letter of recommendation describing his character, abilities, and particularly his bee-keeping skills. When George first arrived at the Jones farm, the bees were wintered in the house cellar. This caused an unbearable smell toward spring as more and more bees died. A couple of years later, Jones built a combination vegetable and bee cellar in the ground near his orchard. By then, George had learned the tricks of bee-keeping and honey extraction only to reject this experience as his life progressed.

George was isolated from his OLIN Family during his indentured years with Jones. However, he made use of the popular postal cards by corresponding with his brothers and cousins. He often wrote in mirror image to his younger brother, Russell, who had to hold a mirror in place in order to read the message. George, his brothers, Earl and Russell, and later, his half-sister Wanda, corresponded by postal cards

from 1906 until well into the 1920s.

George O. Olin left the Jones farm in South Gibson in 1912 and hired out for room and board plus wages at the John Silvernail "Woodside Farm" in Gulf Summit, Broome County, NY. The mainline Erie Railroad track from New York City to Chicago ran through the hamlet of Gulf Summit. Exposure to railroad personnel: conductors, engineers, firemen, and brakemen caused George to consider a different, perhaps better paying future for himself, than becoming a farmer. Supporting his own new thinking, his employer, the postmaster and the owner of the general store, encouraged George to leave for the D & H (Delaware and Hudson) Railroad Yards in Oneonta, NY. He gained a promise from Silvernail that a job would still be there if he were to return within six months.

The D & H hired George at once and put him to work as a switchman. The Oneonta Yards were huge, having the world's largest round house consisting of 52 stalls servicing 100 locomotives daily. George, as a switchman, was kept busy switching tracks for the locomotives to enter and leave the Roundhouse. The farm boy from Pennsylvania experienced new wonders of the world while in Oneonta. He saw his first silent movie, bowled his first game, and marveled at the landscaped beauty of the City of the Hills.

After working six months on the railroad, George returned to the Gulf Summit "Woodside Farm" before moving on in 1914 to Rochester, NY where his brother, Earl, and sister-in-law, Edith, were living. He signed up for a home-study course with ICS (International Correspondence School) to become a Stationary Engineer. It took him two years to complete the course. While in Rochester, George Olin had several different employers; he operated machines that made women's shoes, made brooms and brushes, and did cabinet work. All companies gave letters of reference praising George and stating emphatically that he quit under good circumstances in order to better himself.

In late 1916, he received his diploma from ICS and accepted his first job as Assistant Stationary Engineer for the Dutchess Light, Heat, and Power Company in Rhinebeck, NY. George was happily experiencing "hands on" operation of boilers, pumps, engines, generators, and switchboards necessary to supply electrical power.

Nine months later on Monday, October 8, 1917, George O. Olin entered the United States Army through the Dutchess County, NY draft

board. He received his World War I training along with 50,000 other men at Camp Upton, Long Island. His division, the 77th, included every element of New York State's population with over 50 nationalities, some of whom could not speak or understand English. The 77th Division was the first US troops to arrive in France. George was assigned to the 302nd Trench Mortar Battery that participated in the battles of Vesle, Meuse, and Argonne. His job was to load 90-pound projectiles into the mortar guns that fired at the Germans. (The shells contained solid iron, fragmented iron and gas made of paste or powder.)

A portion of the 77th Division, 302nd Trench Mortar Battery at Camp Upton, NJ, December 1917. George O. Olin shown 2nd row, third from left.

His only relief from the noise of firing within the trenches was his messenger assignments to the officers in the rear. This took every ounce of control and courage because he was exposed to enemy fire when he left the trench. He ran or crawled if it were only a short distance, or grabbed a bicycle or motorcycle, if it would start. However, he found that bikes were not very maneuverable in the shell-pocked terrain. The battlefield was unreal, almost barren with only a

few stumps or shards of trees showing. Nighttime was either totally dark, or intermittently lighted by burning shells that made unnatural silhouettes or shell explosions that blinded their eyes. The return trip to his trench at the front took even more control and courage.

When the World War I Armistice agreement took effect, November 11, 1918, General John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces, issued general Order No.38A in France, February 23, 1919 commending each American soldier personally for his contribution in defeating the Germans. George Omar Olin was honorably discharged at Camp Upton, NJ on the 28th day of February, 1919.

Returning to civilian life, George obtained a coveted position of Stationary Engineer for the American Can Company in Fairport, near Rochester, NY. He joined the Stationary Engineer's Association of New York and served two years as their Secretary. He received a certificate to perform as a Stationary Engineer Examiner and he joined the Fraternal Order of the Moose.

On a trip to visit relatives and friends in Susquehanna County, PA, George stopped at the Binghamton City Hospital to see his sister-in-law, Elsie Darrow Olin, Russell's wife. She had given birth to their first child, Helen Emily Olin, on 31 July 1919. George's visit to the hospital produced unexpected results. It started when curious George looked down a dumb waiter shaft and was startled to see a pretty, smiling face looking up at him. Both began talking at once, and joked over the chance encounter. A date was made for that very evening. The name of that hospital staff worker was Leona Geraldine Ruland.

George O. Olin and Leona G. Ruland, born 5 September 1903 in Scranton, PA, daughter of Dewey O. and Jessie (Kennedy) Ruland, were married in Binghamton, NY by Rev. John J. Lawrence, witnessed by Russell and Elsie Olin on Saturday afternoon, June 27, 1920.

Leona forfeited high school education to work for wages that her family desperately needed. Her first job, when she was 14-15 years old was for the Binghamton firm of Joseph P. Noyes & Company, manufacturers of combs and buttons. The combs were of two types: either all raw horn or raw horn with nickel-plated backing. The combs were made in many shapes, sizes, styles, and manner of finishing. Leona worked on the polishing and buffing machines. The company

buttons were patented, hand-snap buttons designed to replace missing buttons on garments without the use of a needle and thread. Leona rode the trolley car from her parents' home on Fairview Avenue to Noyes Island in downtown Binghamton.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

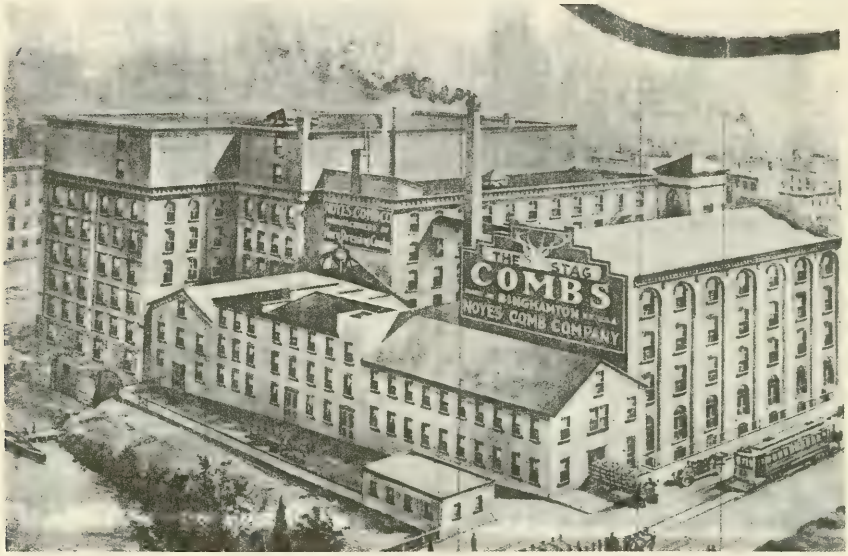
Group photo of the Ruland family, ca 1925. Left to right: Merle Ruland, Jessie Kennedy Ruland, Aunt Binney, Leona Ruland Olin, and Uncle John. Front: Orval D. Ruland, Robert Ruland, Vida Ruland Rockwell, Norma Rockwell, George O. Olin with Warren and Vera Olin and Uncle George, Binney's husband.

Leona's parents were from Lackawanna County, PA, where her father worked in a flour mill. The flour dust caused severe damage to his lungs, and he had developed a bad cough. He died in 1933 shortly after the family moved to Duke Street from Fairview Ave. (Leona's mother, Jessie Kennedy Ruland, descended from Samuel Gorton, one of the earliest settlers of Warwick, RI.

Leona enjoyed telling about her Aunt Binney and Aunt Birdie who lived in Scranton, PA, and their experiences of trying to board and unboard trolley cars wearing their fashionable "hobble skirts." The outlandish skirts was so narrow that it restricted the ladies' ability to walk naturally and required them to take quick short steps. Originally called "sheath skirts," they soon became aptly knows as "hobble skirts." A popular ditty of the times used the "Casey Jones" tune to amuse the male population:

"Come all ye rounders, if ye want to flirt,
For here comes the lady with the hobble skirt;
Ye can hug and squeeze her just as much as ye please,
But ye'll never git the hobble skirt above her knees!"

Leona Ruland was the second child in the family. She had an older sister, Vida, and three younger brothers: Merle, Dean, and Robert. Dean died when only a teenager. Leona's mother, Jessie Kennedy Ruland, lived 30 years after her husband, and died in Greene, NY in 1963.



—Photo Courtesy of Broome County Historical Society

The Noyes Comb Company on Noyes Island, Binghamton, Broome County, NY where Leona Ruland worked when she was 14-15 years old. She rode the trolley cars to and from her home on Fairview Ave., ca 1917-18.

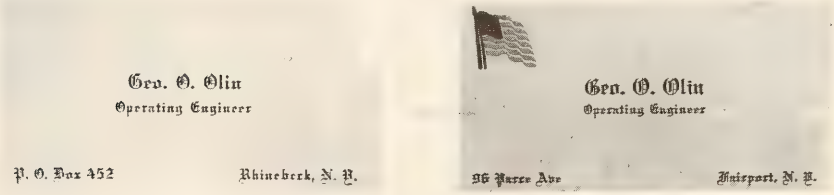
After their marriage, George and Leona Olin set up housekeeping in Fairport, NY where George worked for the American Can Company. On January 6, 1922, Leona gave birth to the first of eight children. He was Warren G. Olin, named after the incumbent US President, Warren G. Harding. Shortly after Warren's birth, the Olins moved to Johnson City, NY. A second child, Vera Ruth Olin, was born July 6, 1923. George was the Stationary Engineer in the basement of the Binghamton Press Building. The Press Building provided electrical power for several adjacent buildings as well as power for the entire Triple Cities

street-car system. After three years, George left for the Stationary Engineer's job at Lestershire Spool Company in Johnson City. He began to sell Hoover vacuum cleaners door to door for a Binghamton department store. In early 1926, the OLIN Family moved to a small house in rural Port Dickinson just outside of Binghamton. Another son, Donald Edward, was born in Binghamton on February 11, 1927.

Above: George O. Olin's coverall uniform as a Stationary Engineer before and after his WW I service.

Right: George O. Olin's World War I dress uniform for the US Army from October 1917 to Febr. 1919.

— Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family —

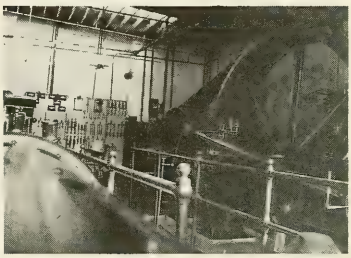


George O. Olin's business card before his WWI service and business card upon his return to civilian life. Note the addition of the American flag.

During all the changing of jobs and addresses, George and Leona began to suspect that George was showing effects of his war service. George experienced increasingly severe headaches, tension and nervousness that affected his ability to work. Before the war he had methodically and progressively improved his position in the work place. After the war, his workplace was well established so he concentrated on

improving his position in society and on raising a healthy family. With everything going for him he had a complete nervous breakdown. Local doctors advised him to abandon his demanding Engineering job, find a relaxing type of work, and protect a potential heart condition.

George preferred working with chickens rather than bees, so in 1927, the George Olin family moved to an eleven-acre chicken farm in Tioga Center, Tioga County, NY. George set his own pace, established a large vegetable garden, a berry patch, a small orchard, and brought in young white leghorn chickens. He established a special market for his eggs in New York City that took his eggs by rail for the Jewish trade. The future looked good for the OLIN Family until the stock market crash of October 1929 when the chicken and egg business declined sharply. With no income, debts increased. Again George's nerves gave out, and he voluntarily admitted himself to the Brooklyn Naval Hospital on two occasions. The doctors agreed that his nerves and heart condition were indeed service connected. He began receiving special Veteran's Relief and compensation which helped somewhat, but not enough to satisfy pending bills and mortgage payments.



—Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family—

Above: A view inside the American Can Co.'s power house, Fairport, NY, showing the huge equipment and master control switchboard, 1919.

Above: Postcard photo, ca 1913 of the "Press" building, Binghamton, NY where electric power was generated for the Press building, some adjacent buildings and for the Triple Cities Traction Company.

Meanwhile, Glenn Raymond Olin was born in Sayre, PA on 24 July 1928, and Ethel Jean Olin was born in Waverly, NY on 6 May 1931.

George Olin, finally admitted defeat, and lost all equity in the chicken farm. With no place to go, he swallowed his pride and reluctantly moved in with his father and stepmother on a farm at Bethel Hill, Harmony Township, Susquehanna County, PA. It was not the best of situations, but his family had a roof over their heads and enough to eat.

George was still a man of vision. While in Tioga Center, he ran (unsuccessfully) twice for a seat on the School Board. He and Leona were determined to have all of their children graduate from high school (which they did). During the height of the Great Depression in 1935, George Olin organized and hosted the first Annual OLIN Family Reunion. The Reunion was well attended and continues today. Interested in establishing their independence as soon as possible, George and Leona found a small house on a ¾ acre lot in Doraville, a small hamlet on the east side of the Susquehanna River in Broome County. They moved in the fall of 1937 and established themselves as pillars of the neighborhood, respected by peers, shared their lives and love with those around them.

Before George and Leona Olin left Bethel Hill, they had another daughter, Ann Joyce Olin, born 27 March 1937 in the farm house in Harmony Township.

Baptist Church, Tioga Center, Tioga County, NY, ca 1910. Rev. Walter Garrison and family lived next door. The Garrisons and Olins were close friends. Leona Olin was the Organist and Sunday School Superintendent.

—Photo Courtesy of Tioga County Historial Society

The Olin's last two children, Lois Marie Olin, born 23 April 1938 and David Earl Olin, born 14 June 1940 were born in the Doraville house. All eight children graduated from the Harpursville Central High School in Harpursville, NY, and three went on to college.

—Photo Courtesy of Tioga County Historical Society

The ten grade school, ca 1910, in Tioga Center, Tioga County, NY. Warren, Vera, and Donald Olin attended this school during the late 1920s and early 1930s.

About 1940, George O. Olin became seriously interested in his OLIN Family History, and wondered who was the first ancestor in American and from whence he came. He began limited searches and correspondence with a genealogist in Vermont and two of his cousins, Clayton C. Olin of Libson, NJ, and Florence Lowe Olmstead of Tioga Center, NY. Just as he was beginning to make progress in his OLIN genealogical search, his eyesight failed him. Glaucoma treatment and cataract operations in both eyes failed to restore more than 5% vision in one eye, and discouraged any further research.

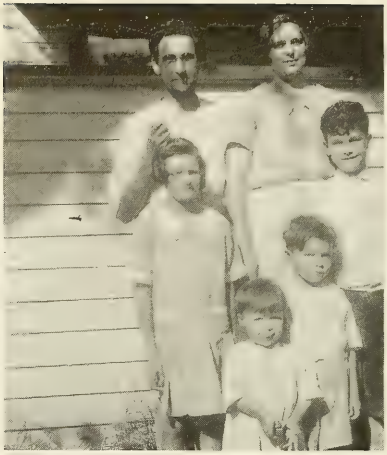
World War II revived George's loathing of Germany's disregard of humanity and their neighboring countries. The Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor and the ultimate draft decree broke his heart. Since his experience in World War I, George was against the United States government's involvement in any issues or conflict subjecting young

men to the horrors of war. But now he agreed that Hitler and the Japanese must be taught a lesson once and for all. He volunteered many, many hours as a member of the Broome County Auxiliary Police force under the Civilian Protection Program. George ignored his headaches, nervousness and heart condition to do all he could to help his country defeat the enemy. He found a job at Brewer and Tichener Manufacturing where he operated punch presses. George discovered that he enjoyed the working details, and the company really appreciated his skills and contribution. Consequently, when World War II ended, George remained on the job, and was promoted to Inspector and to Inspector Management before he left due to his failing eyesight.

George Omar Olin and Leona G. Ruland Olin, parents of eight children, at their home in Doraville, Broome County, NY, 1949.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Leona (Ruland) Olin was undoubtedly the backbone of the OLIN Family. It was her determination, ingenuity, and effort that held the marriage and family together through all the adverse conditions. Leona was proud of her family and never allowed the family to accept public relief. When George became ill, she took over the family finances, maintained family and business correspondence while she continued to cook, clean, wash, sew, and bake for her children, and gather, wash, candle, and pack eggs on the chicken farm. She kept up that frantic pace for 20 years until the children were grown and she could take time to go fishing with her husband, or do some traveling. When George lost his sight, Leona took driving lessons and passed her test on the first try. They were still free to go.



George Omar Olin and Leona G. Ruland Olin with their first four children; by height; Warren, Vera, Donald and Glenn at their chicken farm home on Dry Brook Road in Tioga Center, Tioga County, NY, ca 1930.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Leona believed in God and the Republican Party. Neither could do any wrong. It was certainly her faith in God that kept her going. Leona was the organist and Sunday School Superintendent in the Baptist Church at Tioga Center, the Freewill Methodist Church on Bethel Hill, and the United Methodist Church in Doraville. She and George were instrumental in forming and leading the Doraville Community Club and the Doraville Senior Citizens Club.

Although Leona was initially against card playing (all games of cards were a form of gambling in her eyes, except the game of "Old Maid"), she dropped her negative attitude to favor social, neighborly, monthly games of pinochle with the few remote families around Bethel Hill. She and George enjoyed playing pinochle, canasta, and rummy with their children in their later years.

To take the place of doctor's prescriptions, which costs were high, Leona had a treatment of "oils" that apparently were successful. All eight of her children are alive and well as of this writing. Her children received regular doses of cod liver oil for vitamins A & D and to prevent rickets and TB, mineral oil for a laxative and lubricant, Castor oil for spring clean out and a patented concoction, Emerald oil for healing abrasions and minor open wounds. Her children saw a doctor only when they were very ill or had a broken bone.

Leona's decision to learn to drive in 1958 enabled her to drive for shopping, for temporary work and for local visits. As she and George gradually gained confidence in her ability, she drove long distances: Vermont, New Hampshire, and New Jersey. George and Leona flew to Arizona where their daughter, Marie, lived and to Missouri when their son, David, married while in the Army.

In 1970, family and friends gathered around the Olins to celebrate

their 50th wedding anniversary at the Doraville Community House. The Community House was formerly the one-room school which three of the Olin children attended before going on to the Harpursville Central School.

George O. Olin often told his children that life is too short and we should be thankful for each additional year we add to our own. He hoped that his children would continue to remain close to the end of their days and instill the importance of family closeness in their children and grandchildren. George Omar Olin died 20 August 1975, in Binghamton, NY at age 83 years and 10 months. He received a full military burial with honors, and is the first Olin to be buried in the Knox Cemetery in Ouaquaga, Broome County, NY.

Leona G. Ruland Olin, ca 1984, at the New York State Veterans' Nursing Home in Oxford, Chenango County, NY.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

After George's death, Leona continued to live in Doraville. She made an attempt to ease her arthritic condition by living in the mountains of Arizona only to discover that she had a problem breathing at higher altitudes. She returned to Doraville, and, finally in 1982, moved to the New York State Veterans' Nursing Home in Oxford, Chenango County, NY where she died 17 June 1991. She was laid to rest beside her husband, George, in the Knox Cemetery.

WARREN GEORGE OLIN

George Omar and Leona (Ruland) Olin's first child was Warren George Olin, born 6 January, 1922 in Fairport, NY. His parents had moved from Fairport to Johnson City, NY and once again to Port Dickinson on the outskirts of Binghamton, NY before Warren became aware of his surroundings. He was about four years old, playing on the back porch when he knocked glass milk bottles crashing to the stones

below. Warren fell on the broken bottles cutting the cord from his palm to his little finger on his right hand. A doctor came to the house, stitched the cord together and left a bottle of "Moone's Emerald Oil" to aid the healing. This event is thought to be the introduction of Emerald Oil as the cure-all healer in Leona Olin's medicine cabinet. Warren's finger healed but still remains curved, not fully able to straighten. Warren remembers the doctor because of his coarse black hair protruding from beneath his starched white shirt cuffs.

Warren remembers the time their touring car "Essex" had a flat rear tire while the family traveled up State Road to their home. His father saw that the tire was off the rim, but he could not find it along the road or in the deep brush or the ditch. Warren's mother asked, "George, did you look under the car?" Sure enough, the tire had blown off the rim towards the inside and was hanging on the axle.

Two year old Warren G. Olin waves "Hello" from his home in Johnson City, NY, 1924.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Warren started kindergarten at Port Dickinson School and, when the OLIN Family moved to Tioga Center, he was enrolled in first grade, since there was no kindergarten. He completed seven grades at Tioga Center before the family moved to Bethel Hill, PA where he completed his eighth grade at the Stevens Point Grade School and his first two years of high school in Thompson, PA. The family made one last move to Doraville, NY where Warren graduated, Class of 1939, from the Harpursville Central School. Warren had no particular objective in mind, although he favored history and writing of short stories. His mother kept all the service letters he wrote to her and had a couple published in the *Windsor Standard.*

Warren's first major attempt to write and speak was at his eighth grade graduation ceremony in Stevens Point when he wrote and gave the traditional future prophecy of his classmates. When Warren was a sophomore in the Thompson High School, 1936-37, he was able to earn 25 cents an hour, four hours a week, through President Roosevelt's

NYA, National Youth Administration, relief program by working in the school library that also served the public. He was asked to write the library article that appeared in the 1937 *Owl*, Thompson's school year book. Later in his Junior year at Harpursville, Warren wrote and read his first-place essay sponsored by the local Dairymen's League Association. However, any thought of writing for a career was put aside until he became 60 years old when a revived interest in both history and writing became his new challenge.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Reaping and shocking oats on the Tioga Center flats in 1932. Helping out, is Warren G. Olin and his father, George O. Olin, 2nd from the right. Warren received a bag of peppermint candy for his effort which he shared with his younger brothers and sisters.

Undoubtedly the most serious and lasting moment affecting Warren happened when he was nine years old in Tioga Center. His mother took him aside with tears in her eyes and said, "Son, I expect you to become the man of the house sooner than you should. Your father is very ill and not expected to live much longer. I expect you to help me all you can, get along with the kids, and try to keep a happy attitude. Meanwhile, please do not tell the kids about your father." She hugged Warren and made him promise. Thankfully, George lived 44 more years.

It became a common sight to see a red, wood-sided, coaster wagon full of goodies pulled by nine-year-old Warren Olin along the few streets in Tioga Center. His mother would load his wagon with produce from the garden and berry patch, cottage cheese, butter, cream puffs, fresh bread and eggs, and had it ready for him three afternoons a week when he returned from school. She would hand him a price list and 50¢ in change telling him she expected him to bring back $2.50 and, if he did, he could have a nickel for a candybar at Tunk Smith's Grocery Store. Warren learned to negotiate prices and quantities in order to receive his 5¢ reward that usually bought a frozen polar bar or five packs of penny-a-pack gum.

Warren was able to milk the Jersey cow when he was almost eight years old. Milking the cow was probably the only chore his mother refused to do. It was kind of nice in the winter time to feed, water, and milk the cow, sometimes two cows. The stable was small, insulated with hay and straw, and gave forth a not unpleasing odor of warm animals and manure, a welcome oasis from frigid winter. The chicken coops were of a different matter. Warren hated the penetrating ammonia smell of concentrated chicken droppings; nevertheless, the coops required periodic cleaning.

The Olins had a short, fenced lane leading from the barn to the pasture. One day, Warren hoped to beat the arrival of a thunderstorm by bringing the cows in a little early. It had not started to rain as Warren and the cows entered the lane, when suddenly, lightning struck the tallest tree along the border. Pieces of bark and wood flew about and part of the tree toppled across the lane in from of Warren and the cows. Needless to say, both Warren and the cows were still shaking during milking time.

The sudden move to Bethel Hill, PA disappointed Warren. He lost his friends and recognition by folks of all ages in Tioga Center.

A 1936 view of one of grandpa Orva Olin's flagstone quarries on the Bethel Hill farm in PA. Grandsons, Warren and Donald often helped their grandfather cut the stones.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

The nearest neighbor was a half-mile away with no community other than a church and a gas station. The OLIN Family lived in with Grandma and Grandpa Olin who seemed to have very little to say. However, when Grandpa Orva did talk, his grandchildren learned to listen and do just as he requested. Orva taught Warren how to handle a horse, to cultivate the garden, and how to quarry, cut, and trim flagstone in one of his quarries on the farm. Warren still has some of the special chisels and likes to prove his skills.

Mr. Schmidt owned the gas station at the foot of Bethel Hill at one end of Comfort's Pond, which was the water reservoir for the Village of Susquehanna. He rented rowboats to city fishermen who, if Warren was around, would pay him 25¢ an hour to row them around the pond. Sometimes they gave the fish they caught to Warren or even tipped him an extra 25¢. Warren also delivered around 24 weekly *Grit* magazines for 5¢ a copy. Warren could keep 2¢ and these things helped bring income into the family.

Warren has lasting memories of church revivals hosted by the Baptist Church in Tioga Center and the Community Church on Bethel Hill during the late 1920s and 30s. A visiting evangelist or two would appear with a lot of publicity to hold revivals, often lasting for days for special missionary funds and to save souls. Normal church attendance would fill about a quarter of the seats on Sundays. However, revivals were held weekday evenings and attendance overfilled the church. The evangelists were usually professional, salesmen-type preachers who could arouse audiences to fever-like heights. All it took was one sinner to accept the call and others would follow him to the altar.

In order for Warren to obtain a high school education while living at Bethel Hill, he promised to do both the night and morning chores. He was unable to catch the school bus in the morning simply because it only came two miles out of Thompson and Warren lived three miles farther out. Therefore, he had to ride his bike (which usually had no tires) or hitch a ride to the Thompson school. His most dependable ride was with Mr. Potter who drove a truck, and picked up the farmers' milk for delivery to the Thompson Creamery. He allowed Warren to ride on the back of his truck if Warren would load and unload the cans of milk. This meant that Warren was never able to be in class on time. Warren presented his problem to Professor Chilson who agreed to excuse him

for lateness as long as his grades were kept above passing. When the icy chill of winter meant that no amount of swinging his legs or arms could keep him warm on the back of that milk truck, George brought out his World War I army coat. It was full of moth holes and a hideous olive drab color. Warren was ashamed to wear it, but he had no other choice. There were many days that the deep pockets and high collar protected him not only from the extreme cold, but overcame his feeling of shame. He began wearing the coat with a sense of pride because it was his father's coat during WWI. The next winter, his parents gave him a navy blue peacoat that was a popular style at the time.

After graduating from the Harpursville School, Warren packed an old suitcase and "hit the road" to look for employment. In Binghamton, he saw an ad for a copyboy for the Binghamton Press. The editor said the job was already filled and asked if he would like to work on his Angus cattle ranch in Castle Creek. Warren worked at it for a week before "hitting the road" again. He found a farm job more to his liking on the Martin farm in Marathon, NY. Mr. Martin was scheduled for hospitalization and needed someone responsible for keeping things going. The food was great and Warren was his own boss. He milked 32 cows by hand night and morning, three hours per milking, for three weeks until Mr. Martin returned. It was a good farm job. Mr. Martin gave Warren a $50 bonus and increased his pay by $5 a month for six months. But Leon Lowe, a distant cousin, sent word that he would equal Warren's pay if Warren would come to his farms in Franklin, Delaware County, NY. Warren refused his cousin until the offer included a future stake in his farms. Warren arrived in Franklin in September and left on Christmas Eve. Leon Lowe was not a good employer and, besides, his wife, Nellie, was a poor cook. So Warren walked into the Doraville Methodist Church unannounced on Christmas Eve when the children were half through their program.

Bud and Ruth Lovejoy, newlyweds in Harpursville owned a small dairy farm equipped with a pasteurizing and bottling creamery. Milk was purchased from other farmers, processed and delivered by the Lovejoy farm. Bud was a former professional baseball player and Ruth was a teacher at Harpursville School who wished to take a delayed honeymoon in Florida during the school's Easter vacation. The Lovejoys left Warren in charge of the dairy and creamery operation that included two other employees.

By early 1941, jobs were beginning to open up; the Depression was being smothered by rising prosperity. Warren submitted job applications in dozens of places for a city job. He was hired at once by the Crowley Milk Company where he spent hours making and mixing commercial ice cream base. Six weeks later, IBM (International Business Machines) offered Warren a job for less money than Crowleys. Warren took it thinking that it offered a better future. He started in August, 1941, as a laborer, loading and unloading box cars on the railroad dock in Endicott.

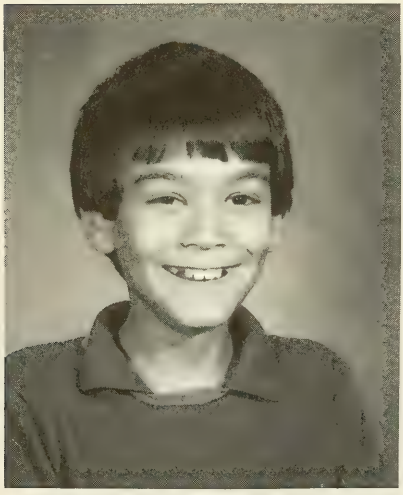
Warren G. Olin and Eleanor Elizabeth McGuire, daughter of Elvira Tripp McGuire, were married on Valentine's Day, February 14, 1942 in Grandpa Tripp's home at West Colesville, Broome County, NY. Warren and Eleanor "Betty" had two sons: Gerald "Jerry" Warren Olin, born 1942, and John "Jack" Raymond Olin, born 1945, both in Binghamton, NY. The marriage ended in 1947. Eleanor married John K. Shields in 1951 who adopted the two boys in 1962. Jerry elected to disappear and left no trace of where he went. Jack married a flight attendant, and he and Kazyuo have three children: Erica, Stephanie, and Jon. Erica is married to John Hamlin and they have a daughter, Amanda. Warren married again to Emilia Tamara Delovich on Sadie Hawkins Day, November 18, 1950 in Montrose, PA. More on his second marriage later.

John "Jack" Raymond Shields with his wife, Kazuyo, in their Schaumburg, IL home, ca 1984.

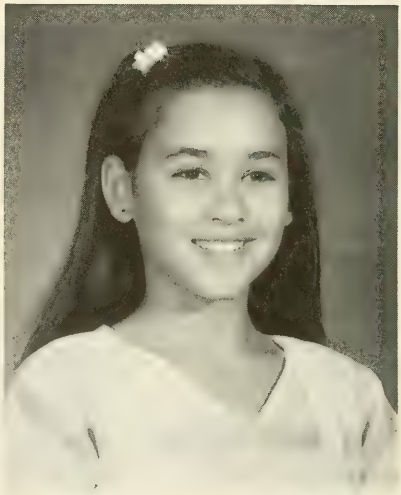
—Photo Courtesy of Geroge Olin Family

Jerry and Jack Olin visit with Santa Claus, 1947. In 1962 they officially became Jerry and Jack Shields.

— Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family —



Jon Shields, 1986
All three children of Jack and Kazuyo Shields.



Stephanie Shields, 1986

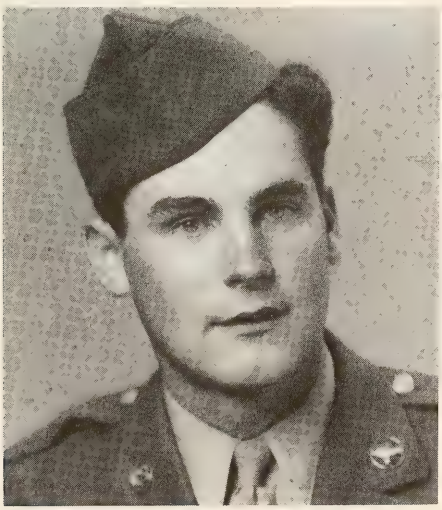
Warren's work at IBM was becoming more and more challenging and exciting, but by 28 January 1943, the Broome County Draft Board shipped him off to Fort Niagara, NY, where he was assigned to the Air Force. During the next two years Warren received training and passed

Erica Shields Hamlin and Daughter, Amanda, 1993.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family—

all tests in the highest percentile until, unknown to him, he became a member of a 60-man unit being trained as expendable crews for the new B-29 bomber. An expendable crew meant a three-man flight crew to replace a normal ten-man flight crew. The three men were to operate at any position on the B-29 to fly a suicide mission over Japan and were not expected to return.

Warren was discharged from the Air Force twice. The first time in a paper transaction only, he was discharged as a Buck Sergeant, clearing the way for his 2nd Lieutenant Commission. His final separation from the Air Force took place at Mitchell Field, Long Island in October, 1945, his specialty listed as "Navigator." A Navigator's duty in the Air Force was to guide aircraft over land and water by dead reckoning, celestial pilotage and by radio and/or radar to reach the objective at a pre-determined time. Warren was



Sergeant Warren G. Olin of the United States Air Force, 1994.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

trained as an radio operator, in ordnance, as an armorer, aircraft pre-flight engineering, aerial gunner, navigation, bombadiering, radar operator plus six months of intensive study at Cedar City College in Utah. Of course, dropping of the atomic bombs ended the need for further training for B-29 suicide missions. Warren never made it overseas.

Warren returned to IBM with mixed feelings and perhaps with a chip on his shoulder. The work at IBM was inside, not like the open air of farm life. He was not too enthused about returning; yet IBM had kept a job for his return and had paid him one week's wages for every month he was in service for his country. Warren felt that he owed IBM his dormant support which continued 34 more years until his retirement in 1979.

Warren's second marriage to Emilia T. Delovich, born 11 April, 1922, the daughter of Raymond and Pearl (Sysock) Delovich, Russian Ukrainian immigrants, established a long, compatible relationship. Her parents were poor during the Depression, like the OLIN Family. Her father worked in the coal mines of northern Pennsylvania near the hamlet of Lopez. Emilia learned early in life to be a hard and devoted worker at whatever needed doing.

Emilia Delovich Olin was a faithful 4H Leader and Coordinator of Tioga County Annual 4H Pork Chop Barbecue, dedicated to St. Paul's Episcopal Church serving on the Altar Guild, it's Women's Club, and a past Vestry Person. Emilia is also an active member of the Tioga County Museum, edited the Bi-Centennial Cookbook for the county and prepares clothing for local thrift sales. Her supportive effort in Warren's research and writing of the OLIN Family history is appreciated.

When Emilia married Warren, she worked at IBM. After WWII, IBM instituted a policy that married women had to give up their jobs in favor of returning servicemen. Since that polity was still in effect, Emilia had to leave the company. Two years later, IBM transferred Warren to their plant in Poughkeepsie, NY and that plant was hiring women. IBM was now hiring or allowing employee's wives to work. However, six months later, when Warren was promoted to management, policy forbade managers' wives from working in the company. So Emilia quit a second time and went to work for another manufacturing company. In 1956, Warren was transferred to a new facility in Owego,

NY where he progressed into middle management until he retired in 1979 as Superintendent of third-shift operations.

Emilia Delovich Olin, another flower in the Olin "garden or family." ca 1952.

— Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family —

1986 wedding of Frederic C. Underwood, Jr. and Judith Lorraine Olin at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Owego, NY. One of the ushers: Edward Dean Olin, brother of the bride. The proud parents of the bride are Warren and Emilia Olin.

Warren and Emilia Olin have two children, both born in Endicott, NY: Judith Lorraine Olin, born 17 January 1961, a graduate of Newark Valley School who married Frederic C. Underwood, Jr. on 19 April 1986 in Owego. Judy works as a team leader assembling electronic circuit boards. Fred, a natural mechanic, son of Frederic C. and Laura Jean (Rupert) Underwood, Sr., works for the National Guard and belongs to the Reserves. Warren and Emilia Olin's son, Edward Dean Olin, was born 6 January 1962, (40 years to the day after his father's birth). Ed graduated from Newark Valley and received his ME Degree in 1985 from Rose Hulman Institute of Technology at Terre Haute, Indiana. He works as a Product Design Engineer for the Ford Motor Company in Michigan. His hobby is auto racing: drag and moto-cross with his 1986 super-charged, converted Ford Mustang.

Warren G. Olin in 1979 when he retired from IBM and began another career in researching and writing history.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

From the late 1950s to the 1970s, Warren and his family operated a successful hobby farm, raised beef for the local freezer trade and Holstein-bred heifers for dairy herd replacements. Three specific benefits were derived from the Olin farming venture. It provided Warren with a physical outlet to work off IBM work-related frustrations; it provided fixed and varied activities and chores with learning experiences for two, healthy, growing children; and the farm provided the trees for lumber when Warren built his own retirement house.

Warren and Emilia had remodeled several old houses. After their

two children were born, they decided to have all the house advantages that were unattainable in their childhood. They build a large brick ranch with three bathrooms that was socially correct in all respects. After Warren retired and their children were gone, the Olins built a small, retirement house from wood off the farm. The outside has vertical siding of white pine and hemlock, and each room in the house is paneled of different wood: cherry in the living room; oak in the kitchen; and bathroom; beech in the main bedroom; ash in the hall and laundry room; sugar maple in the breezeway; and soft maple in the garage.

Warren was active in Tioga County projects. He served on the Planning Board, Family Debt Counseling Service, Records Retention, Historical Society. He judged 4H projects, school science competition and Strawberry Festival Parades.

Warren was appointed as Tioga County Historian and served seven years. During that time he was Chairman of the County Historian's Association of New York State's Nominating Committee, wrote over 75 published county history articles and delivered dozens of history talks throughout the county. Warren admits that the book *Seasons of Change*, the updated history of Tioga County, was his best performance. He coordinated the research and writing efforts of 24 "would-be" authors to deliver an 800-page book, including photos and index in time for Tioga County's Bicentennial observance in 1991.

Currently, Warren is puting the final touches on the history of the Joseph Olin branch of the original John Olin who arrived in America ca 1678.

—Photo Courtesy of Warren Olin Family
Judith, Warren, Edward and Emilia Olin

VERA RUTH OLIN

George and Leona (Ruland) Olin's first daughter was Vera Ruth Olin, born July 6, 1923 in Johnson City, Broome County, NY. When Vera was four years old and living in Tioga Center, she knew her ABCs and could count to 100. If people made the comment to her that she was a very smart little girl, she quickly replied, "I know I is!" In the Tioga Center School, Vera proved time after time to be the best "speller" in the school. She was one grade behind her brother, Warren. Whenever an intra-class spelling contest took place with team-against-team, Vera would be the first person chosen and Warren would be the last chosen. Warren would be the first to misspell a word and consequently the first to sit down. Vera was always the last to remain standing. Vera completed her first six grades in the Tioga Center School and her seventh and eighth grades at the Stevens Point Grade School in Susquehanna County, PA. The OLIN Family was living on Bethel Hill when Vera was ready to enter high school. In order to get a high school education, she had to leave home, and work for her room and board in Susquehanna. Vera stayed with the Kenneth Glidden family in Susquehanna for her freshman year of high school. The following year, the OLIN Family moved to Doraville, Broome County, NY, where Vera continued three more years in the Harpursville Central School District. Although Vera had the highest class average in 1940, she was placed below two others whose families were long-time residents of the area.

During the summer of 1939-40, a local Doraville fellow, Harold Throop, became a softball legend in New York's Southern Tier. He was the pitcher for the Harpursville Town Team. His underhand pitch was nothing fancy, just super fast and hard. The Harpursville team was unbeatable when Harold Throop pitched. To encourage more games with better competition, night lights were installed on the Harpursville field, the first in that part of the state. Harold made it a habit to stop at the Olin home to have Warren Olin catch his practice pitches until Warren's hand started complaining. Warren was allowed to play right field for the team when needed, but his greatest thrill was being able to catch Harold's pitches. He thought the only reason Harold came to the Olins was for pitching practice, until he realized Harold stayed long after dark visiting with Vera.

On the 8th day of February, 1941, Vera Ruth Olin and Harold David Throop were married in the Olin home. Harold worked for a farmer who lived on and farmed a small place in Doraville and had another farm on Harpur Hill with a vacant house. The hill house was in rather bad shape with drafty holes, a propensity for chimney fires, and a hand water pump in the yard which had to be thawed. That is where the newlyweds set up house.

Harold Throop was born 25th April, 1919 in Norwich, NY, the son of Albert and Edith (Briggs) Throop. The Throop family moved to Doraville where Harold's father operated the general store. Albert Throop was totally blind, and the neighborhood youths often took advantage of him. Harold attended the one-room school in Doraville and graduated from the Afton High School in Afton, Chenango County, NY. Harold made farming his career, and became a hired man for others. The Throops left Harpur Hill, and moved to Nineveh, Oxford, Sanitaria Springs, and Windsor. Each move improved the working and living conditions for the family. Eventually Harold gave up farming and took a job with the Town of Colesville Highway Department until he retired in 1982. Harold Throop served as Master of the Sanitaria Springs and Pomona Granges and was a member of the Sanitaria Springs Methodist Church.

The Throops sold their home in Windsor to buy a new, modular home between Sanitaria Springs and Port Crane. Harold died on 16 July 1993 and is buried in the Knox Cemetery, Ouaquaga, NY. While the Throops lived in Windsor, Vera began working for Sears Roebuck & Company in Binghamton in 1957 as a sales clerk, rising to a Division Manager and, finally, assigned to the Accounting Department before her retirement in 1983.

Harold and Vera (Olin) Throop had three children: Carolyn Faye, born 26 June 1942; Cathleen May, born 3 May 1944; and James Arthur, born 1 June 1945, all born in Afton, Chenango County, NY.

Carolyn Throop graduated from Windsor Central School in Windsor, NY, received her Associate Degree from Broome Technical College as a Medical Office Assistant. She is presently a Mental Health Therapy Aide. Carolyn married James Indulis, a bus driver in 1973. Her second marriage is to Floid M. Gage, 15 May 1982 in Binghamton. Floid was the son of Floid W. and Viola (Sibley) Gage and served 4-½ years in the US Army. He attained Olympic level speed in ice skating.

Now, he and Carolyn travel the states in search of covered wooden bridges to include in his photo album.

Cathleen Throop graduated from Windsor Central School and from Cornell University as a Foods Nutritionist. Cathleen married Arthur Thomas Johnson, an Agriculture Engineering graduate from Cornell on the 7th of September 1963, in Harpursville, NY. Arthur Johnson, born 21 February 1941, East Meadow, Nassau County, NY, was the son of Arthur and Margaret (Law) Johnson of Newfield, NY. While in Cornell University he participated in the ROTC Program and later served a few years in US service, discharged as a Captain. The Johnsons settled in Maryland where Arthur accepted an assignment with the University of Maryland and is presently Professor of the University's Trauma Unit. Arthur Johnson often travels for speaking engagements and consultations. In 1991, Johnson authored a book *Bio-mechanics and Exercise Physiology.* Meanwhile, Cathleen worked as a Librarian and raised their children.

Arthur and Cathleen (Throop) Johnson have two biological and two adopted children. The oldest, Joy Ellen Johnson, born 1967 in Ithaca, NY, married Michael Shreiber in 1989 at Baltimore, MD. The Shreibers have a son, Ryan Patrick, born 1994. The Johnsons other daughter, Jodi Lynne Johnson, born 1969 in Ithaca, NY, married Kenneth Pierson in 1992 at Nottingham, Chester County, PA. The Piersons have two sons: Gregory, born 1988; and Clayton, born 1993.

Arthur and Cathleen (Throop) Johnson adopted two young, Korean orphan boys in 1984: Paul Hyun, born 1978 and Eric Hoon, born 1981. Both boys entered the United States on 10 November 1984 and both were officially adopted by the Johnsons on 23 October 1985 and naturalized on the 21 March 1986.

James Throop graduated from Windsor Central School and Broome Technical College where he received his Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering. He performs technical research for four Cornell University's professors, including co-authoring papers. Jim has received special awards from the University and holds four patents of his own.

James Throop married Carol Lee Conover on 19 July 1969 at Ithaca, NY. They reside in Newfield, NY and have two children: Benjamin Wade Throop, born 1972 in Ithaca and Susanna Anna Throop, born 1979 in Ithaca, NY.

Vera Ruth (Olin) and Harold David Throop at the 1989 OLIN Family Reunion, in Oxford, Chenango County, NY.

— Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family —

Left: The photographer has the attention of all five OLIN children in late 1931 at their home in Tioga Center. Left to Right: Vera, Ethel, Warren, Donald and Glenn.

Right: The Harold and Vera Olin Throop family at the 1957 OLIN Family Reunion in Windsor, NY. Left to Right: Carolyn, Cathleen, Vera, James "Jim" and Harold.

DONALD EDWARD OLIN

George and Leona (Ruland) Olin's second son, Donald "Don" Edward Olin, was born 11 February 1927 in Binghamton, NY. His earliest memories begin in Tioga Center with the family cow, pigs, many chickens, and "King," a German Shephard dog that Dad brought home to prevent further theft of chickens. One particular incident occurred when Don was about six years old. As he describes it:

"Occasionally, our family would visit the Ekert family up on the Halsey Valley Road. One July evening while the folks were in the house visiting, we kids were catching 'lightning bugs' or fireflies, and put them in glass jars with covers. I had caught a lot of them, but I was also getting cold and tired. I climbed into our Model T Ford to look at my fireflies when one of them escaped from the jar. While trying to catch it, I smashed it on the back of the car's rear seat. What a discovery! The spot glowed! With the addition of the remaining 40 - 50 fireflies smashed across the surface, the whole back seat glowed! So did my bottom when Dad saw what I had done to his car. There is something about a spanking that really does help one's memory."

Don had a lot of respect for his Grandpa Orva Olin when the Olins lived on his farm at Bethel Hill, PA. Grandpa taught Don how to split and cut flagstone and gave Don a stone hammer and a chisel to keep and use for his very own. Grandpa Olin also showed Don, Warren, and Glenn how to find and remove the beautiful, clear, diamond shaped quartz from the seams in the rock formations.

Warren and Don often picked blueberries from the low bushes and blackberries from their tangled brambles. One time, Warren pushed weeds aside, and prepared to climb through a barbed wire fence, when a swarm of disturbed, white-face hornets hit Warren's behind, causing Warren to jump over the fence rather than through it. Don still gets a good laugh thinking about it 60 years later.

Another Bethel Hill incident that survived the years was the time when Dad assumed the role of "cook" when Joyce was born. In Don's words:

"Dad had his own culinary specialties; corn meal mush, 'Ugh', fried salt pork, unsoaked tapioca pudding, etc. On most Sundays during the winter, if our family cow cooperated, we would make ice cream. Dad wasn't going to deviate too far from the normal routine and made the vanilla pudding mixture for the freezer. We kids took turns cranking

the freezer for the privilege of licking the dasher clean. The resultant ice cream was good; but it had an unusual flavor. Mom asked Dad what flavor he put into the mix and Dad naturally said, 'Vanilla extract from the Watkin's bottle.' (In those days, Watkin's products were delivered to county homes by traveling salesmen and often their products were contained in look-alike bottles with proper labels: food flavorings, tonics, cough syrups.) Mom asked Dad to bring her the bottle. Dad had mistakenly used the cough syrup instead of vanilla. Needless to say, none of us kids had any reason to cough that evening."

Another one of Don's memories is philosophical in nature, again originating on Bethel Hill, about 1936.

"While a youngster on Bethel Hill, I listened to Dad and a neighbor, Linus Wheeler, talk about how tough the times were for them during the existing Depression. Linus stated to Dad, 'George, things are sure tough, but remember we do have our families, our children and a good wife. That's something that they can't take away from us.' Dad fully agreed with Linus and they both sat quietly reflecting on their own thoughts.

"At the time, I wasn't aware of the significance of what I overheard, but as I grew older, I began to appreciate that memory. Here were two fathers struggling to feed and care for their families, times were tougher than normal, yet the love of their families kept them going. Having been a child who grew up during the Depression years, I never felt poor, deprived, neglected or unloved. Our neighbors and friends were all in the same boat. We were 'dirt poor' but didn't know it. We seemed to have enough to eat and clothing on our backs. With all the problems that faced Mom and Dad, I never once had the feeling of neglect or the feeling of being unwanted, just a feeling of being loved."

The OLIN Family's move from Bethel Hill to Doraville, NY, registered strongly in Don's mind. It was almost like moving to a new world. Downtown Doraville had a one-room schoolhouse, a general store, a Methodist Church, and about 15 houses if they were pulled a little closer together. The Olin house was in disrepair, but soon became liveable and became a home through the combined efforts of George, Leona and their children.

Don began contributing to the Olin finances by mowing lawns, working by the hour for local farmers, and raising rabbits. His thriving

rabbit production failed to yield a profit for lack of a market. When sales were off, the Olins ate a lot of rabbit stew with baking powder biscuits. Don continued to work locally by the hour and eventually worked for his room and board plus at the Lovejoy Farm and Creamery in Harpursville until he graduated from high school.

Donald Olin graduated from the Harpursville Central School, Class of 1944, after serving as Class President and delivering the Valedictorian address. Destined to become a successful farmer, Don hired out to the High View Dairy Farms in Candor, Tioga County, NY. Meanwhile, he had become a serious contender for the affection of the daughter of a merchant in Windsor, NY.

Donald Edward Olin married Grace Lucille Weeks on a cold, winter's day, January 30, 1949 in the Zion Episcopal Church, Windsor. They left that day for a honeymoon in the warmer climate of the southern states. Warren, Don's older brother and best man, knew for a fact that Don actually experienced "cold feet" the last few minutes before approaching the altar. Don confidentially mentioned to Warren that in his haste to dress for his wedding, he had forgotten to put on a pair of socks. Warren took off his socks and gave them to Don who breathed a sigh of relief.

Gracie Lucille Weeks, known as "'Lucy and/or Cille," born 6 May 1927, in Windsor, was the only child of Clarence R. and Mabel (Moore) Weeks of Windsor. Cille graduated from Windsor Central School, the New York Technical Institute at Delhi, NY, and was employed by Lourdes Hospital, Binghamton. Don and Cille made their first home in Candor, NY.

Don, looking forward to becoming his own boss with his own dairy herd, farming equipment, and acreage, accepted his father's-in-law challenge to take over, restore, and propagate the small Week's` Homestead south of Windsor. The Olins left Candor and devoted most of their time to establishing a base for a larger dairy herd along with the basic farm equipment.

In the mid 1950s the Olins purchased the well-known, Gracemore Farm, near Ouaquaga, NY, on the west side of the Susquehanna River, half way between Harpursville and Windsor. Their acreage increased to 600 acres, about half of it excellent river flats. The dairy herd increased to well over 250 head of registered Holsteins, and Don sent

8,000 pounds of milk daily to the Dairymen League Creamery. Gracemore Farm, under Don's ownership, was considered to be one of the top dairy farms in the Southern Tier of New York State. It had a modern, herring-bone, milking parlor, a bulk milk tank with heat exchanger producing hot water, a separate sick bay and a computerized feeding system. Don Olin's farming philosophy: "I've never tried to keep up with the Joneses; I just try to keep ahead of them." He capitalized on his OLIN surname to register his dairy herd as "NILO:" OLIN in reverse.

Of Donald and Lucille Olin's six children, five were boys. None of their sons were interested in carrying on with Gracemore Farm. William, the oldest, was struggling to enhance his own dairy farm. Michael liked the mechanical and equipment work involved, but not the work involving cattle. The other sons had ideas of their own that did not involve farming. In 1988, after 39 years of farming Don held a well-advertised cattle auction in December, and a farm machine auction in February, 1989, and sold all but a few acres of his land. Don is still a part-time farmer, planting ear corn and alfalfa, and has a harvest agreement with his son, William.

Don and Lucy Olin's Family, minus Michael, at the 1976 OLIN Reunion in North Jackson, PA. Sitting Left to Right: Thomas, Diane, Cille, Linda (Bill's wife) and Bill. Standing Left to Right: Doug, Don and Kenny.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Donald and Lucille (Weeks) Olin's first son, William Edward Olin, born 2 November 1949 in Binghamton, NY, graduated from Harpursville Central School in 1967 and from Cornell University in 1972, majoring in Agricultural Business. He married Linda Bonney, born 1952 in Lewiston, Maine, daughter of Clarence and Theresa

Bonney, who also graduated from Cornell University. Bill and Linda Olin have two children: Theresa Cille Olin, born 1981, in Johnson City; and Jefferey William, born 1983. Both children are active with farm chores, 4H activities and the excitement of school.

— Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family —

Don and Judy Olin with some of their children and grandchildren at the Oxford OLIN Reunion, 1989. Standing — left to right: Thomas, Judy, Don, Bill and Henry Vacarro (Jenny's husband). Sitting — back row: Debbie (Tom's wife), Linda (Bill's wife) and Jenny Noll. Grandchildren — Left to Right: Theresa (Bill's), Christy and Philip (Tom's) and Jeff (Bill's).

Linda has distinguished herself as an amateur photographer, and has won many contests and is now classified as a professional photographer. She works for the New York State Department of labor at their Oneonta office. Bill Olin's one of the young "make it happen" breed of farmers. He has recovered from the fire loss of his cattle barn by building a modern facility for his dairy operation and harvesting and mixing his own cattle feed. Letters to the Binghamton *Press Sun-Bulletin's* Editor and his media interviews reflect the views of the majority of dairy farmers in the Northeast. Bill milks 120 cows with a herd average of 22,000 pounds of milk per cow a year. He is a member of the Broome-Chenango (Counties) Agribusiness Council. He has served as President of Broome County Farm Bureau and President of Broome County Sub-district Dairylea Cooperative.

Donald and Lucille's only daughter, Diane Marie Olin, born 2 January 1951, graduated from Harpursville Central School, Class of 1970 of which she was the Secretary. She received her teaching degree, 1974, from the University of Maryland, a Masters Degree in Divinity, 1977 from Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC and a Master in Education Degree, 1987 from the University of Delaware. She volunteered many hours for the Harpursville Fire Department Emergency Team and continues to instruct others in life saving techniques.

Newlyweds, Jack P. White and Diane Olin White glow with happiness during their wedding, 18 June 1995 in Wilmington, Delaware.

— Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family —

The older boys hid their "lollypops" when Glenn and Donald Olin posed with their little sisters: Joyce, Ethel and Marie and their little brother, David, 1943 at their Doraville home.

Diane M. Olin married Robert P. Hall, an ordained minister, on the 20th of August 1977 in Salisbury, Maryland, where they made their home.

Diane's second marriage was to Jack Parker White, a fellow choir member, on 18 June 1995, at the Grace United Methodist Church, Wilmington, Delaware. Jack was born, 1931 in Waterloo, Black Hawk County, Iowa, son of Harry L. and Alma Marie (Parker) White. He is a Court Recorder. Diane teaches problem children. The Whites live in Wilmington, DE.

Donald and Lucille Olin's third child, Michael Fred Olin, was born 4 May 1954. He was treasurer of his 1972 graduating class from Harpursville Central School and received an Associate Degree from Delhi Tech, NY in Agricultural Mechanics. Michael has served on various committees and as President of the Broome County Farm Bureau.

Michael devoted most of his early working years helping his father on Gracemore Farm. He married Anita Marie Herrmann, born in 1960, on the 23rd of June, 1984 in Binghamton, NY. Anita's parents, Horst and Polly Herrmann often return to Germany to visit family. Anita was the herdsperson for Gracemore Farm. After their marriage, Anita became a dental assistant after earning her credentials from Broome Community College. She loves horses, has some of her own and boards others. Anita competes in equestrian shows and teaches others the art of safe and proper ways of competing. Micahel's hobby is collecting old toys, particularly farm and tractor toys. He works for the Town of Colesville Highway Department. Michael and Anita (Herrman) Olin have a daughter, Cori Elizabeth, born 23 July 1991.

Donald and Lucille Olin's fourth child, Thomas Raymond Olin, born 7 October 1955 in Binghamton, NY, gave the Valedictorian Address for his Class of 1973 from Harpursville Central School. He enrolled in Hamilton College and intended to become a lawyer. Instead, he changed his goal to computers, and earned his BS Degree in Computer Science. He works for PAR, a Computer Programming Contracting Company, where he is involved with program proposals for various government agencies.

Thomas Raymond Olin married his high school sweetheart, Debra Planavsky on 18 June 1977 in Binghamton, NY. Debra was born 2 February 1955, the daughter of Ivan and Ethel (Male) Planavsky. Tom

and Debra have three children, all born in Utica, NY: Christine, born 1980; Philip, born 1986; and Jonathan, born 1991.

Tom Olin is very interested and active in the OLIN Family's History and organizations. He has served many years as the Secretary of the NY-PA OLIN Reunion. Tom started the *OLINews* newsletter in 1987, and served as Editor for this biannual publication. He contributed his time and expertise to organizing the OLIN Family Society, an organization that recognizes all descendants of the original John Olin who arrived in America ca 1678. Tom has assumed the responsibility for collecting, collating, and documenting via his computer all of the OLIN genealogical hard data including lateral lines.

Donald and Lucille Olin's fifth child, Douglas Moore Olin, born 4 March 1960, Binghamton, NY, was the treasurer of his 1978 Harpursville Central School graduating class. He continued his education at the New York State University at Geneseo, NY where he received his degree in Radio and Television Communications. Before his marriage, Doug was a videographer for WSKG, the Public Television station in Binghamton, NewYork.

Douglas Olin married Donna Marie Halavik on June 21, 1986 in Binghamton, NY. Donna Marie, born 1956, is the daughter of Andrew and Doris (Livingston) Halavik. Doug and Donna make their home in Pensacola, Florida where he is employed as a video editor and Donna works as a librarian cataloger. Doug was part of the Olin team who made a special, 20-minute, VHS videotape of the Joseph OLIN Branch that was shown in celebration of the 50th Reunion of the New York and Pennsylvania OLINs.

Donald and Lucille Olin's youngest child, son, Kenneth Earl Olin, was born 29 July 1962 in Binghamton, NY. He also graduated from the Harpursville Central School, Class of 1980 of which he was the President. Kenneth attended one year at Hartwick College, Oneotna, NY before going to England where he studied another year at Loughburgh, Manchester. He finished his last two years at the New York State University at Oneonta, NY, receiving a degree in Theater. Kenneth resides in Norristown, PA and is employed by Macy's Department Store in Philadelphia.

Lucille Weeks Olin was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis when she was 35 and her children were still young. The family learned to pitch in and all are good cooks. Eventually, Don, in concert with his

children and siblings, elected to have his marriage annulled, to provide for Lucille's remaining years. Lucille Weeks Olin died April 25, 1991 at age 63, in Binghamton, NY.

Donald Olin married Judith Helen Weeks Noll, a medical social worker, 17 July 1982, at the Gracemore Farm in Harpursville. Judy's father, Rev. William Weeks, and Don's son-in-law, Rev. Robert Hall, officiated. Judith was born 27 July 1939 at Port Jefferson, Suffolk County, NY, daughter of William and Dorothy (Preston) Weeks. Judith brought three daughters into the Don Olin family.

The oldest, Jennifer E. Noll, born 1964, Carmel, Putman County, NY, attended Houghton College, Houghton, NY. She married Henry Vaccaro, a graduate of Nyack Missionary College, Nyack, NY who earned his Doctorate in Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA and Post Doctorate Degree from MA Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. Henry is a Senior Chemist for Schering and Plough. Jenny, Henry and their son, Will, live in South Plainfield, NJ.

Dorinda R. Noll, born 1967 in New London, CT, received her BS Degree from the New York State University at Oneonta and her MBA from the Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. Dorinda is a Senior Analyst for New York State Electric and Gas Corporation in Broome County, NY and is serving on Binghamton City Council.

Marni J. Noll, born 12 September 1969, New London, CT gained her Associate Degree in Liberal Arts from the Broome Community College in Binghamton, NY. She is presently an Assistant Day Care Teacher at the State University of New York at Binghamton, NY.

Since retirement from active farming in 1989, Don has erected a beautiful modern log home near Gracemore Farm. Judith decorated it to perfection, and both have spent hours landscaping and grooming the outside. Judy grows flowers and vegetables, and Don has a wood-working shop. In 1993, Don became the proud owner of a six-horse-power, vertical, gasoline OLIN Engine, invented by Fred Olin and manufactured by the OLIN Engine Company of Buffalo, NY. This particular engine was used in the oil fields of western NY about 1900.

Don Olin has a long record of public service. He served 15 years on the Harpursville Central School Board, was President of the Broome

County Cooperative Extension Association, President of the Broome County Farm Bureau, President of the Broome County Dairylea Cooperative, and Chairman of the Federal Farm & Home Administration Committee for Broome County. He served 22 years as Chairman of the Town of Colesville Assessment Committee and was a member of the Town of Colesville Grievance Board, and the Broome County Landfill Site Committee. Possibly the most challenging, interesting and satisfying volunteer hours were as Chairman of the Renovation Committee responsible for relocating and restoring the one-room schoolhouse from Doraville to the Town of Colesville property in Harpursville. Don, his brother, Glenn, and sister Ethel attended the Doraville School in earlier years.

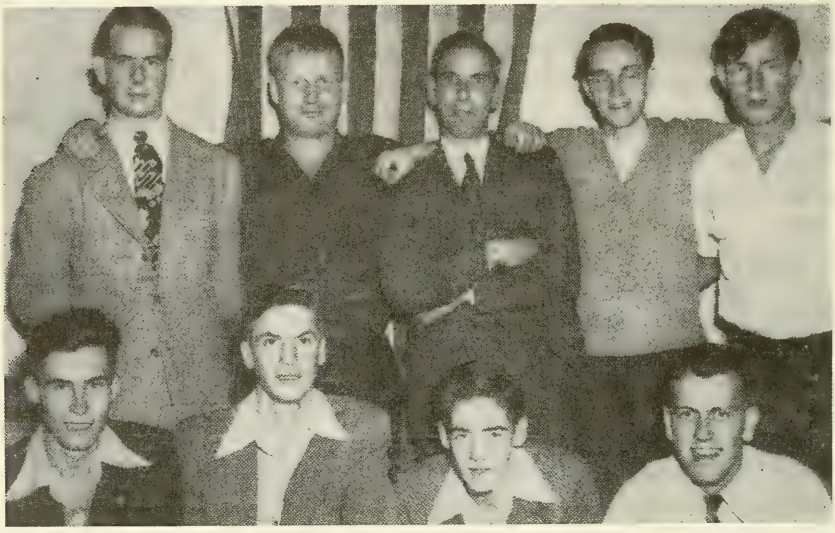
GLENN RAYMOND OLIN

George and Leona Olin's fourth child, Glenn Raymond Olin, was born 24 July 1928 in Sayre, Bradford County, PA. He started his schooling in Stevens Point, PA, continued at Doraville, NY and graduated from Harpursville Central School in 1946. Glen enlisted, August 1946, in the United States Air Force, and took his basic and skills training at San Antonio, Texas. In 1947, he was shipped overseas to a sub-Air Force Base at Saitozaki on the Island of Kyushu, Japan where he joined the 610th ACU Squadron as Airman 1st class Radar mechanic and later, as Cryptographer.

One day in late December, 1948, while stationed in Japan, Glenn decided to ride his bicycle from Saitozaki to Fukuoka, a distance of some 25 miles. Glenn tells of this memorable ride:

"I had been sightseeing and taking some pictures as I was riding down a street with streetcar tracks with a junction when I saw this Japanese girl get off one car and transfer to another car. I told myself that this was someone I would have to meet. I followed her streetcar up and down the hills as fast as I could. Finally, after two to three miles, I saw her leave the streetcar to walk up a side street. Not wanting her to think I was following her, I rode around the block to meet her coming up the street. I asked her for directions to some place I had passed. She told me, and then we talked about where she was going and where she worked. I found out that she lived and worked at Camp Hakata which was an army camp one mile from where I was stationed. She worked as a telephone operator at the Camp Exchange.

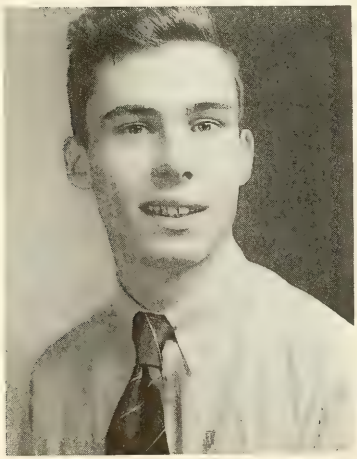
I left her, knowing that I had to see more of her. The next few days, I spent hours calling the Camp Hakata telephone exchange trying to get her to talk to me and to make our first date. This was how I met Akiko Kiyota, riding my bicycle, chasing a streetcar through the city of Fukuoka, Japan. A little more than two years later, 18 February 1951, during the first year of the Korean War, Akiko Kiyota and I were married in Fukuoka, Ken, Japan."



—Photo by The Binghamton Press – 1946

Veterans and Rookies: These nine enlistees, some with previous army experience left Binghamton Army Recruiting Station late yesterday for pre-enlistment exams at Albany. Glenn Olin, first in front row left, starts his first of two hitches for the United States Air Force.

— Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family —



Glenn Olin, age 17 in 1945.

Akiko "Jean" Kiyota, born 15 February 1927, was the daughter of Shigegi Kiyota and Etuko Sakurai. Glenn and Jean Olin had a daughter, Leona Jean Olin, born in 1951 in Japan who lived for only six hours. While Jean was in the hospital, she and Glenn received an unexpected

visitor from back in the States. One of Glenn's school chums, Edward F. Oliver who had been in the thick of things in Korea, was on R & R time in Japan. Later, Ed returned home and married Ethel Olin, one of Glenn's younger sisters. Glenn returned to the United States with Akiko to Keesler Field in Biloxi, MS where he received his discharge, 20 December 1952.

A son, George Russell Olin,was born in Biloxi, MS before the Olins came north as civilians to Glenn's home County, Broome NY. Their first home was on the top of Belden Hill on a road soon known as "OLIN" Road so named after Glenn Olin. Glenn worked at Link Aviation, makers of aircraft simulators, and performed wiring operations on various assemblies until February, 1955 when he was accepted into one of IBM's Customer Engineering Training Programs.

Glenn and Jean moved off Belden Hill to be closer to his work in Endicott. Within a couple of years, Glenn's assigned territory was Chenango, Otsego and Delaware Counties in New York State, This necessitated another move, to a large, beautiful house in Mount Upton, Chenango County. Glenn is an accomplished photographer and now experiments with the transfer of color slides to video tape and computerized images. Glenn served the Mount Upton community with seven years on the School Board, five years on a three-county BOCES (Board of Co-Op Educational Services) board and five years as a Cub Scout den father.

Grandma Olin (Leona) obliges her grandchildren by donning Japanese styled clothing in her Doraville home, 1959. Children — left to right: Gerry, Alisa, George and Gene, being held in his mother's arms.

—Photo Courtesy George Olin Family

Jean Kiyota Olin received a good education in Japan and speaks Japanese and English equally well. Jean is an excellent seamstress, and an excellent cook. Glenn and Jean have made several trips to Japan to visit family and friends. Glenn retired from IBM, April 1, 1987 and now winters in Yuma, AZ and summers at their home in Mount Upton, NY.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Glenn and Akiko "Jean" (Kiyota) Olin celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary, 18 February 1991.

A nephew of Akiko "Jean" Olin recently commissioned the research and compilation of the 700-year genealogical history of the KIYOTA family in Japan. The results were published in 1993 in Japan and dates Jean's paternal KIYOTA family back to 1200s.

Growing up, Glenn had chore responsibilities at home. About the first week of August, his mother Leona, would casually say, "You know if I had some blackberries I just might make a pie." Glenn would take the hint, put on a long-sleeved shirt, grab a small pail and head for a hillside in search of wild blackberries. He always managed to get his share of berry pie.

When his brother, Donald, purchased five does and a buck, registered New Zealand white rabbits, the intent was to convert rabbits into cash, since rabbits produce six litters of eight rabbits a year. Don began working for local farmers, and left the rabbit business in Glenn's hands. It seemed foolish to Glenn to keep up the paperwork required for registered rabbits when the rabbits were destined for the meat market. Unfortunately, there was no market for rabbit meat. When the rabbit census reached 100, Glenn, Donald, and their mother decided it was time to halt any further large scale rabbit production. Glenn and

Donald butchered the rabbits, and their mother pressure-cooked and canned them in one day. That ended Don's rabbit business.

Shortly after, Glenn's father, George brought home a milking goat which his father milked to provide the OLIN Family with good, rich milk. One day, George and Leona were away from Doraville longer than usual and the goat was 'blatting' to be milked. In desperation, Glenn, who had never milked a goat or a cow, decided to milk the goat to calm her down. It took Glenn over an hour to get two quarts of milk from the wonderfully patient goat. In a few weeks, the goat was gone from the OLIN Family, mostly because it butted Leona every possible chance.

Glenn and Jean Olin had seven children, five boys and two girls. Their first child was Leona Jean, born and died in August 1951 in Japan. Their oldest son, George Russell Olin, was born in Biloxi, Harrison County, MS, the 9th of October 1952. George graduated the Valedictorian of his class in Mount Upton, NY. He received the National Bausch & Lomb Award and earned his degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology. He is a recognized scientist at Kodak.

George Russell Olin married Jane Louise Coval in Rochester, Monroe County, NY on the 27th day of July, 1975. they live in Webster, NY and have two daughters: Justine and Elizabeth.

Jane L. Coval, born 16 April, 1950 in Rochester, the daughter of John Leo and DeSales (Kohl) Coval. Jane holds a BS Degree in Social Sciences from RIT and is an active member of Webster Central School PTA. Their daughter, Justine, born 1981, enjoys violin, writing and poetry, while their other daughter, Elizabeth, born 1986, prefers the oboe and ballet.

Glenn and Jean Olin's third child, daughter, Alisa Joy Olin, born 28 October 1954 in Binghamton, NY, graduated from Mount Upton High School. She married Daniel Farrell on 6 August 1973, in Mount Upton. Daniel is the son of Robert and Amanda Farrell. They had a daughter, Sarah Farrell, born 1975 in Ithaca, Tompkins County, NY. Sarah graduated in the top ten of 600 students in 1993 from Fairport High School. She is a student at Cornell University.

Alisa Olin Farrell received Degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and her MBA from RIT. She held management positions in Xerox, and is presently a supervisor for Comp-U-Serve in

Columbus, OH. She married Vince DiSisto in 1987. She and Vince accepted a three-year assignment for Xerox in the 1980s on the Island of Kwajalein in the Pacific Ocean. Vince and Alisa DiSisto have a daughter, Nicole, born 1989 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Glenn and Jean Olin's fourth child is Gerry Roy Olin, born 8 December 1955 in Binghamton, NY. He was Valedictorian of his Mount Upton High School graduating class. Gerry has worked 20 years as Supervisor of the Diet Kitchen at A. O. Fox Memorial Hospital in Oneonta, NY. Gerry is also a devoted "Rock and Roll" musician who currently leads "KETCHUM SCRITCH", a band that plays live music for every occasion and is booked for the next one-and-a half years. Gerry plays the steel guitar, key board, sings and composes special music and lyrics.

Glenn and Jean Olin's fifth child, son, Gene Ray Olin, born 7 March 1958, Binghamton, NY, finished his high schooling six months ahead of his graduating class of 1976 at Bainbridge-Guilford Central Schools. Gene is an electronics expert. Gene married Sandra Agnew in Oneonta on 22 February 1989. They have one child, Glenn Rutherford Agnew Olin, born 1991, in Oneonta, NY.

The sixth child of Glenn and Jean Olin is Gregg Roland Olin, born 28 July 1960, Endicott, NY. He graduated from Mount Upton School, received his Associate Degree from Tompkins-Cortland Community College and earned his BS Degree from the New York State University at Cortland, NY. Gregg married Barbara Ann Beyer, born 17 October 1961, Brooklyn, NY, daughter of Thomas and Patricia (Graveline) Beyer. Gregg and Barbara have two children, both born in Ithaca, NY: Tara Jean Olin, born 1984, and Joshua Troy, born 1987.

Gregg Olin is an energetic and talented young many who has remodeled houses, installed alarm systems, tutored gifted children and worked as a computer salesman, contractor and consultant. Despite severe business setbacks, he perseveres. Gregg is self-employed, owning and managing a computer consulting business. Gregg R. Olin married Mary Ann Emerson, December, 1992 and they have a son, Nickolas Emerson Olin, born 1994 in Rochester, Monroe County, NY.

Glenn and Jean Olin's youngest child, Garrett Richard Olin, born 7 September 1964 at Endicott, NY graduated from Mount Upton School in 1982. He attended college in New Mexico for a short while, and left to work at a local New Mexico Company. This company sent him to

the Island of Diego Gardia, in the Indian Ocean for one year and to the Island of Kwajalein in the Pacific Ocean for two years. Garrett is presently working as a programmer in the Rochester area.

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A 1973 gathering of George C. and Leona Ruland Olin's eight children. Standing: Donald E. Olin, Glenn R. Olin, David Earl Olin, and Joyce Olin Powell, Lois Marie Olin Janusewski, and Ethel Olin Oliver. Seated: Warren G. Olin, Leon A. Ruland Olin, George O. Olin and Vera Olin Throop.

ETHEL JEAN OLIN

George and Leona Olin's fifth child and second daughter, Ethel Jean Olin, was born 6 May 1931 at the General Hospital in Waverly, NY.

Ethel's first memories begin at the Bethel Hill home in Susquehanna County, PA. she writes:

"While living at Bethel Hill, and before starting school, I learned what it meant to be embarrassed.

A new young pastor, Walter Whitney, conducted the weekly Sunday Services at the Bethel Church where our family attended. Often, as poor as we were, mother would invite him home after service for Sunday dinner. We kids, of course, were expected to be on our best behavior. At my young age of four, Rev. Whitney lavished quite a lot of his attention on me with little toys and even a baby doll, which, at that time in the 30s, to have a doll was very special. Mom and Dad, as I suppose many families did, bought flour and sugar in 100 pound bags. Mom had two, large, mouse-proof, metal cans with covers in the kitchen. Dad would pour the flour and sugar from the bags into the metal cans. These cans served as a place for me to sit when Mom wanted me out from under her feet.

On one of Rev. Whitney's Sunday visits, I went to my favorite seat on the sugar can and the unthinkable happened! The cover was not on tightly — it flipped, and down I went, bottom first, into an almost empty can! To have it happen in Rev. Whitney's presence was the ultimate embarrassment to a four-year-old child.

Ethel continues: "New clothes for a family in the 1930s and early 40s was scarce. Dresses were almost always handmade in our family and clothes were patched until they could no longer hold together. If socks were made of cotton rather than wool, they too were 'darned and redarned.' I always had a new, handmade dress for Christmas, not under the tree, but given to me to wear at the Church Christmas program where recitations by us children were performed in front of the congregation. When I became a teenager and sewed my own clothes, we were able to pay 25¢ for pretty, printed, 'feed bags' which we considered very special. By converting the bag into flat material, I found that one feed bag would do for a blouse, perhaps two or three for a dress. I thought my wardrobe was the greatest and that I was the luckiest teenager alive.

"I was six years old when we moved into the Doraville house that had no electricity or running water. I began to understand and realize how every one in the family worked together to make a house a home. We each had our own assigned chores to perform daily: from washing and drying dishes, carrying in the firewood, taking out the ashes, carrying in water from the creek for Monday clothes washing day, hauling drinking water from our neighbor's spring, swatting flies, washing windows and so on.

"Occasionally Mom and Dad would set aside their stressful burdens and take in a movie at the Windsor Theater. Movie patrons were asked to save their ticket stubs for a drawing after the shows. Mom Olin won twice! Her first winning was for $80 which she used to pay off the mortgage. A few weeks later, she won $100 which was a lot of money to us in those days. Since Warren and Vera had left home, Mom took to confiding in me, the oldest daughter at home. She wanted to have the house wired and a well drilled and wished to use the $100 as a starter fund if I would help her reach her goal. She had a lead on taking in washing and ironing and needed my help to carry in the water and to turn the 'hand-powered' washing machine. We kept the stove hot to heat the 'sad irons' during ironing time. We sometimes added only $2 to $3 a week to our secret fund, but Mom was patient! It was a happy day when she figured that it was time to talk to an electrician and well driller. What great lessons in setting goals, learning patience and fortitude I learned from my mother in this venture."

Ethel Olin walked to the Doraville one-room school for a couple of years before riding the bus to the Harpursville Central School where she graduated from High School in 1948. Ethel had the distinction of being the first in the family to gain higher education. She put herself through Delhi Technical Institute, Delaware County, NY and was employed by the Webster Central School District as their Cafeteria Manager. After her Delhi graduation, Ethel became seriously interested in a fellow student, Edward Frank Oliver. A marriage between the two took place after New Year's Eve, 31 December 1952 in Harpursville, NY. Edward was born 27 February 1929 in the Town of Fenton, Broome County, NY, the son of Frank and Helen (Palmer) Oliver.

Edward Frank and Ethel Jean (Olin) Oliver's six children, all smiling for their 1961 Christmas photo. Left to Right:: Patricia "Patty" Jean in front, Cynthia "Cindy" Jo, Charles "Chuck", Edward, Susan "Sue" Jane, Barbara "Barbie" Lorene and little Robert "Bobby" Roy.

— Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family —

Below: Ethel Jean Olin, age 14 in 1945.

Edward "Ed" and Ethel (Olin) Oliver settled in on a small dairy farm on Martin Hill, Broome County. Ed, a man of action, had three enterprises going for the next ten years: the beginning of a sizable and productive Holstein dairy herd, a growing family of six beautiful children, and a hobby of small engine repair.

Eventually the Oliver Family moved to the Forsythe farm on the east side of the Susquehanna River just below Doraville. The river flats were more profitable and easier to work than the hilltop farm. Theirs was a family farm where everyone pitched in to make it a success. After 35 years of dairy farming, Ed sold off his milking herd, and kept some young stock which he phased out in five years. By this time his hobby of small engine equipment sales and service developed into a full-time business. He and Ethel had managed to take a few cruises and a trip to Europe as company award trips.

Ed and Ethel Oliver's children began with the birth of Barbara Lorene Oliver, born 15 November 1953 in Binghamton, NY. Barbara graduated from the Harpursville Central School and continued her education with a BS Degree from Cornell University. She went to NY City where she taught in an inner city school, taught advanced sewing and tailoring for Singer Sewing Machine Company and worked for McCall's Magazine as a Pattern Writer. She moved up the Hudson River to Newburgh where she taught Home Economics in both Junior High and High Schools in Newburgh. Barbara Oliver met Peter Gonzalez, a bilingual teacher who also taught in the Newburgh School District. Barbara Oliver and Peter Gonzalez were married on the 6th of January 1979 in Newburgh, Orange County, NY.

Peter Michael Gonzalez, born 17 December 1951, in Manhattan, NY City was as a son of Thomas and Amparo (Rivera)Gonzalez. Peter and Barbara have three children, all born in Newburgh: Christopher David, born 1979; Corrine Maria, born 1982; and Deanna Emily, born 1985.

Ed and Ethel Oliver's second child, Charles Edward Oliver, was born 27 September 1954 in Binghamton, NY. He graduated from Harpursville Central School, took some Community College courses. He worked for a short while as a clerk in a drug store and a few years in an auto parts store before he became a working partner in his father's small engine sales and repair shop. Charles married Kimberly Ann Bush, born 1956, daughter of William and Jane (Saltzman) Bush at Kattelville, Broome County, NY in 1978. Charles and Kimberly Oliver had two children born in Johnson City, NY: Kasey Laine, born 1982; and Timothy William, born 1984. Charles Oliver married a second time to Janet DeCelle in May, 1991.

Ed and Ethel Oliver's third child is Susan Jane Oliver, born 9 May 1956 in Binghamton. Sue was Valedictorian for the Class of 1972 at Harpursville Central School. She was accepted at Radcliffe-Harvard University, and received her BA in 1978 and, in 1984, earned her MBA from Boston University. Sue served a summer internship with senator Warren Anderson, Majority Leader in Albany, the New York State Capital. As a business and marketing consultant, one of Sue's major contracts was with International Harvestor Corporation before the British Case Equipment Company takeover. Susan is a faithful marketing consultant for Sears Roebuck and Company and works from

her computerized home office in Chicago, IL.

Susan Oliver married Michael D. Takada on 25 August 1984 in the Harpursville Methodist Church. Michael was born, 11 May 1956 in Chicago, son of David and Joan (Takarabe) Takada of Chicago. Michael received his BA in 1978 from Boston University and his MBA in 1989 from DePaul University, Chicago. He is a Vice-President in a large international bank in Chicago. Michael and Susan Takada have three children, all born in Chicago, IL: Julia Megumi, born 1986; Laura, born 1988; and Anna, born 1992.

Ed and Ethel Oliver's fourth child is Cynthia Jo Oliver, born 2 October 1957 in Johnson City, NY. Cindy graduated from Harpursville Central School and received her BS Degree from New York State University at Cortland, NY. She is presently a Guidance Counselor for Harpursville Central School. Cindy married Albert Joseph Dauphinais, Jr., 6 October 1980 in the Town of Colesville. Albert was the son of Albert J. and Rosalyn (Lovelace) Dauphinais, Sr.

Albert and Cynthia Dauphinais had two daughters born in Johnson City, NY: Lindsey Oliver, born 1982; and Jillian Rose, born 1983. In 1995, 12-year-old Lindsey wrote a thought-provoking letter to the Editor of the Binghamton *Press & Sun-Bulletin* about racism as she perceived it.

Cindy Oliver next married Donald McMahon.

Ed and Ethel Olvier's youngest daughter, Patricia Jean Oliver, born 16 June 1960 in Johnson City, graduated from Harpursville Central School and received her degree from Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY. She is self-employed as a licensed registered physical therapist.

Ed and Ethel Oliver's youngest son, Robert Roy Oliver, born 22 September 1961, graduated from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY with a BS Degree, in Economics. His first job was with the ALDI Corporation, a midwest grocery wholesaler for the public market. Robert is presently the General Manager of the German-based Gotz Corporation, a doll manufacturing company located in Baldwinsville, NY.

Ethel Olin Oliver's summation of her endeavors, gives inspirational credit to her father, George Olin:

"My father tried to instill in his children the importance of contributing in their own way to help make our great country a better

place to live. It seemed an opportunity to me, when our youngest child was to graduate from High School to run for a political office. In 1978, I was elected Town Clerk for the Township of Colesville where I continue to serve.

"Our Oliver family had the privilege of hosting two teenage foreign exchange students who have a special place within the family. Ed and I have traveled to Finland to spend time with Leila and her young family, and a trip is being planned to Australia, as well,to visit Rose Marie and her family. Over the years, we have entertained Rose Marie's parents, her brother, her sister, and neighbors at our Doraville home.

"In all our endeavors, we seem to get much more back than we have given to others. Often, we are guided by the words of wisdom written by my Dad in my autograph book - 'Let me live in a house by the side of the road and be a friend to a man.' "

Ethel Olin Oliver, Clerk for the Town of Colesville in her 18th year, 1995.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

ANN JOYCE OLIN

George and Leona Olin's sixth child, Ann Joyce Olin, born 27 March 1937 in Harmony Township, Susquehanna County, PA has always been known by her middle name, Joyce. She graduated as Valedictorian from Harpursville Central School in 1954 with a NYS Regents Scholarship. By waitressing, and securing employment during

school vacations, Joyce was able to finance her own college education. Joyce received her BA in Education from the New York State College at Albany, NY in 1958 and in 1982 earned her Master of Public Administration Degree from Russell Sage College in Troy, NY.

A fellow Albany State graduate, Richard "Dick" Powell and Joyce were married on 29 March 1959 in the Harpursville Methodist Church. Joyce was teaching Social Studies to High School students in Webster Central School and Dick was teaching Social Studies in LaFargeville Central School. After living in Webster and Sodus the Powells moved back to LaFargeville in 1962 where Dick became the Head of their Social Studies Department. Joyce was a substitute teacher and a full-time mother.

Richard G. Powell, born 23 May 1936 in Ogdensburg, NY was the son of Lloyd G. and Mildred (Ritchie) Powell of DeKalb Junction, NY. Richard graduated from Henmon-DeKalb Central School at DeKalb Junction and went on to earn his BA at SUNY-Albany, his MS in Education from University of Rochester, and his MS in Library Science from SUNY-Albany. Dick taught Social Studies in four school districts before becoming the Junior High Media Specialist and Librarian for the Catskill Central School, Catskill, NY.

Ann Joyce Olin and Richard G. Powell pose at her parents' home in Doraville, 1958, one year before their marriage.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Newlyweds, Richard Powell and Joyce Olin Powell, cut the wedding cake at the reception in the Harpursville Methodist Church, 29 March 1959.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

When Dick retired from teaching in 1990, the Powells moved to Oneonta, NY. Dick took a job in 1992 as a salesman in a durable medical equipment store in Oneonta. He enjoys the restoration of antique and classic cars and small trucks and has a small collection. Dick and Joyce Powell and their children have always been active in their church, volunteering many hours.

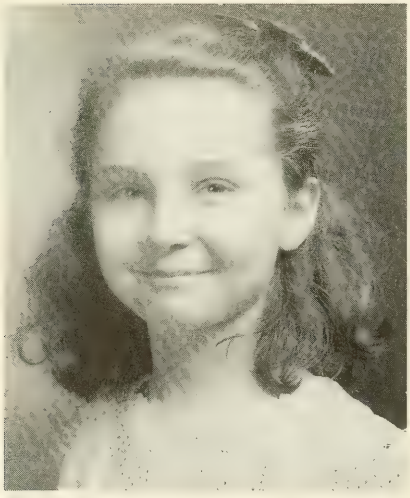
Starting out as a teacher and mother, Joyce Olin Powell began her new career in the 1970s. Her testimony on "Ethics" to a New York State Senate Legislative hearing in Albany, paved the way for her own government reform ideas in later positions. During the last 15 years, Joyce Olin Powell has set an example for other small governments and volunteers in needed services. In Greene County, NY, she was the Coordinator of Aging Services, and implemented a total integrated system that included adequate home-care services. In 1989, Joyce was appointed Executive Director of the New York State Association of Area Agencies on Aging. She took the job that nobody wanted, and turned it into a job everyone wanted. She revitalized a dying organization, doubled its funding, and quadrupled its services.

Since 1991, Joyce has served as consultant for state and local aging and non-profit agencies. Joyce was one of the first Long-Term Care Ombudsmen Supervisors in New York State and trained dozens of long-term care ombudsmen. She authored the official NYS Office for Aging Manual on Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers. She is a trained mediator and arbitrator and specializes in family problems including divorce mediation.

Richard and Joyce Olin Powell stand with their four children at the OLIN Family Reunion, 1989, at Oxford, NY. Left to Right: Mark Andrew Powell, Richard G. Powell, Daniel James Powell, Carol Ann Powell, John David Powell and Joyce Olin Powell.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family—

Ann Joyce Olin, age 8, 1945.



In addition to her consultant and mediator services, Joyce works part-time as the Adult Home Specialist for the Delaware County Department of Social Services.

Joyce Olin Powell was named an Outstanding Young Woman of America for Greenville, NY in 1971. She obtained a patent on a basketball hoop clothes basket for the back of the door in a child's bedroom. She served as a 4H Leader, and a 4H Cooperative Extension Chairperson, held numerous positions in the United Methodist Church including developing educational courses and programs.

Richard and Joyce Powell have four children: John, Carol, Daniel, and Mark.

John David Powell, born 14 May 1960, Rochester, NY, graduated 1978 from Greenville Central School, Greene County, NY and received his BS in Physics, 1982 from Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio. John worked a short while as a salesman for Radio Shack before becoming a Computer Programmer for PAR Technologies in Utica, NY. In 1989, John began to work for Bell Atlantic in Freehold, NJ as a Computer Programmer, a position he still holds.

Carol Ann Powell, born 15 July 1961 in Rochester, NY, graduated from Greenville Central School in 1979 and St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY in 1983 where she received her BA in English. Carol taught High School English two years at Clifton-Fine Central School at Star Lake, St. Lawrence County, NY before embarking on a career in insurance in 1985. In 1989, she became an analyst for the Farm Family Insurance Company in Glenmont, Albany County, NY. She has moved upwards within the company where she is presently Manager for Customer Service. Carol recently earned a CPCU designation conferred in Hawaii.

Daniel James Powell, born 1 April 1966, in Alexandria Bay, NY, graduated from Catskill Central School, Catskill, NY in 1984 and from Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY in 1988 and received a BS in Electrical Engineering. Daniel served a student internship at General Electric in Syracuse, NY. IBM, Kingston, NY hired Dan in 1988 and transferred him to their Poughkeepsie Plant where he works as a Research and Development Engineer.

Mark Andrew Powell, born 28 August 1968 in Catskill, NY, graduated from Catskill Central School in 1986. He attended two years at RIT, Rochester, NY before graduating with an Associate Degree from Columbia-Greene Community College in Hudson, NY. Mark works as an auditor for Jeffrey Barrett Accounting, Catskill.

LOIS MARIE OLIN

The seventh child and youngest daughter of George O. and Leona (Ruland) Olin was Lois Marie Olin, born 1938. After completing her High School Education at Harpursville Central School, Marie joined the US Air Force to become a Ground Passenger Specialist.

While serving in the Air Force, Marie married Frank Janusewski, another service person, and they had four children: Victoria L., born 1960 at Somers Point, NJ, married Gregory L. Steinke in 1978, Yuma, AZ. They had two children: Heather Marie, born 1979, Grand Forks, ND; and Jennifer Leigh, born 1980 at Grand Forks, ND. After their divorce, Victoria had three more children: Yehuda, Elisheva and Ari by common-law husbands.

Stephen Luke Janusewski, born 1962 in Somers Point, NJ, married Anabella deCosio de Rivas, 1989 in Mexicali, BC, Mexico. Steve and Anabella have two daughters: Stacey Teresa, born 1990; and Whitney Marie, born 1992, both born in Yuma, AZ.

Ruth Jeanne Janusewski, born 1964 in Yuma, AZ married first, Donald Vilandre, 1981 in Yuma, AZ. Ruth and Donald had two children: Donna Lee, born 1984 in Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, DC; and Kevin Richard, born 1987 at Fort Belvoir, VA. Ruth Jeanne's second marriage, 1994, in Oklahoma City, OK was to her former brother-in-law, Gregory L. Steinke. A son, George Elmer Vernon, was born to Ruth Jeanne in 1994 at Oklahoma City, OK.

Frank and Marie (Olin) Janusewski's last child is Andrew David Janusewski, born 1969 in Yuma, AZ and was married to Klaudia Sauer, 1988 in Budingen, West Germany. Andrew and Klaudia have three children: Alexander David, born 1990 at Oklahoma City, OK; Andrew Daniel, born 1993 in Friedburg, Germany; and Jessika Daniela, born 1994 in Friedburg, Germany.

Marie Olin stands in front of her Doraville home while on leave, 1956, from the United States Air Force.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Marie Olin Janusewski Stutler with her daughter, Ruth Jeanne Vilandre and her grandchildren, Kevin and Yehuda, at the 1989 OLIN Family Reunion held at the New York State Veterans' Nursing Home in Oxford, Chenango County, NY.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Marie Olin Janusewski worked in the cashier's department for Sear's Roebuck & Co. in Yuma, AZ. When husband, Frank Janusewski died in 1977, Marie decided to improve her earning capability by furthering her education. In 1978 Marie received a BS Degree from Northern Arizona University. She received a dual certification to teach regular grades K-8 and to teach special education in grades K-12.

Marie's second marriage in 1981 to Elwood Ray Stutler in Yuma, proved to be a short one. Marie was married in 1989 at San Antonio, Texas, to Forrest L. Meredith, a retired farmer from Indiana. They made their home in LaVernia, Texas. Forrest is a caring, community-spirited individual, dedicating his skills and time to Habitat for Humanity and building churches. In 1989, Marie received her certificate to teach English as a Second Language in the State of Texas.

Lois Marie Olin remembers her "growing up" years in Doraville. In her own words she relates the following:

"While we were growing up, I didn't think about being poor or deprived. I just thought everybody drank the milk left over from making butter. I also thought that everyone ate pancakes and johnny cake for supper; that the first pancake had to be eaten plain, and then you could put on some bacon grease, syrup, or gravy on the next ones. Hand-me-downs were a given just like the fixed bedtime. I remember a green and white dress that my older sister had worn. Mom was going to press it after remaking it to fit me. Sadly, the iron was too hot and the dress melted. I never did get to wear it. When I was 14 or 15, Mom was making a dress out of a melon colored, cotton material. I just knew it had to be going to Joyce or Ethel. How surprised and delighted I was when she had me try it on for hemming. That's when I realized that I was taller than they were, and they just might get my hand-me-downs. It took a while longer before I was taller than Vera, but I made it.

"I remember the big stove that sat in the living room and the two stoves in the kitchen. One of the stoves had a big tank on the right hand side where the water was heated. Before we had running water, Mom would get the big rinse tub and fill it about one third full every Saturday night for our baths. We girls usually bathed first because we were supposedly cleaner. One winter, Saturday evening, I was in the tub when someone knocked on the kitchen door. Mom quickly pushed the tub, with me in it, back towards the kitchen-woodshed door and the stove. Well, it was Rev. Sabin who came in and sat in the living room talking with Mom and Dad. I would say he was in the right vocation because he sure liked to talk. Anyway the water was getting colder and colder, and my feet were turning white and shriveled. I was too embarrassed to call attention to myself because I didn't want to be seen without any clothes on. Finally, Rev. Sabin left and Mom remembered my plight. She warmed up a big towel and my night gown, rubbed me extra long, and chided me for not calling for her.

"I think Dad's favorite April Fool's joke was the rag in the pancake trick. He didn't do it every year, just often enough for us to suspect it. Either way, he had us hooked and laughingly holler out 'April Fool.'

"Having been born in the Doraville house, I don't really remember much of its original condition. I do remember Dad putting cardboard on the walls upstairs and how replastering and papering was major projects downstairs. I can remember David and me following "Mr.

Man" (I do not know his real name) around as he was wiring the house. David hadn't started school yet.

"I guess I was about nine when older brothers helped Dad put the imitation brick siding on the house. I was in fourth grade when the well was drilled. David had the mumps around Thanksgiving time so he was home and watched the drilling take place. I was supposed to be in a Christmas play at school, when, about a week before the performance, Ethel and I met each other in the hall upstairs holding our necks and not feeling well. We went downstairs together. Mom took one look at us and put us back to bed. We had the mumps! A couple of years earlier, Ethel and I had our tonsils removed together in Dr. Torrance's office in Harpursville. Is this togetherness or what?

"I remember Dad telling us to keep the window shades down as he went on watch during World War II. He went out at night and I was always asleep when he returned.

"Before we had electricity, I remember doing homework around the big kitchen table with a kerosene lamp. That table was amazing to me. It could expand to such great lengths to seat all of us kids and later most of the grandchildren at the same time. Only occasionally would the card table be necessary.

"I think we all took turns hauling drinking water from a neighbor's spring. We would load a milk can and a couple of pails in our coaster wagon or tie them on one of our sleds and pull it to the spring and back about every other day. Our washing water came from the creek by the bucketful and many, many buckets full on wash day. We smaller kids thought we were pretty big to be trusted to bring back our drinking water. After the well was drilled, Dad put a pitcher pump in the kitchen sink which often required prolonged priming until the house was plumbed .

Marie, David and Joyce Olin, the three youngest children of George O. and Leona (Ruland) Olin, pose for a photo at their home in Doraville, NY ca 1944.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

"Installing indoor plumbing was such a relief. To me nothing was worse than going to the outdoor privy and worrying which would get me first: the animals lurking in the dark or the many spiders. Of course, at the time, I never knew just how affluent our family was; having a 'three-holer' privy could have been a status symbol. The second worse thing in our young lives was the upstairs chamber pots that had to be carried out to the toilet daily and emptied of its 'stinking' contents. One morning when it was my turn, I put on one of Ethel's old slacks, rolled up the cuffs a few times, put on an old sweater, started down the stairs with the pail. I was on the third step down when I tripped and fell head first down the stairs. Somehow, the emptied pail ended up on my foot like a flag. Mom rescued me, cleaned me up, and treated my scrapes with Emerald Oil. Joyce hurriedly cleaned up the mess before it ran through the cracks into the cellar. My sister wasn't overly friendly to me the rest of the day.

"Like I said, we all cheered when the bathroom was finally plumbed and working even though we had to ration hot water for showering. Talk about water conservation, our parents practiced that as long as I can remember. I still feel like I'm breaking some rule when I don't turn the water off while I am lathering up.

"Replacing the wood stove with a coal stove made our lives quite a bit easier. I remember Dad and my older brothers cutting and splitting wood with saws and axes. I was allowed to pile the kindling wood in the woodshed which was cleaned out to make room for a coal bin. I helped Dad clear the area while he fashioned a wall with gates for the coal. It was fascinating to watch the delivery man back his huge truck up to the woodshed window, put his chute from the truck through the window and shovel coal down that chute with all the noise he could muster. We kids had the 'clean' job of keeping the coal bucket filled.

"The woodshed also housed the old ice box. It was kinda fun to go with Dad to the neighbor farmer for a block of ice and watch him use the iron ice tongs to carry it and swing it into the ice box. If Dad got two blocks of ice, that was our clue that Mom was planning to make her delicious ice cream, and whoever turned the crank, had first crack at the dasher."

Marie finishes her story with a simple George and Leona Olin philosophy instilled at the start of the Great Depression:

"I remember hearing Mom and Dad discussing the problem of

buying a Sears refrigerator on credit. Until then, it seems, they had no credit or record of credit because they never bought anything unless they had the cash to pay outright."

Frank and Marie Olin Janusewski, 1958, Charleston Air Force base, SC.

—Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family—

Lois Marie Olin, age 7, 1945.

DAVID EARL OLIN

George and Leona Olin's youngest child was a son, evening the count to four boys and four girls. David Earl Olin was born on the 14th of June, 1940 in the Olin Doraville home — a complete surprise to the other children.

When David was three or four years old, Mr. Beavan wired the Doraville house. Dave followed him step by step until he fell exhausted to the floor. Mr. Beavan surely had a lot of patience working around the sleeping Dave. As the older children left home, one after another, Dave took on more and more family chores. Being the youngest and the last of eight children to leave home, David's last few years at home were truly a great comfort and help to his parents.

Dave remembers when his father began taking his mother fishing up on Perch Pond. They would bring back some small fish, but nothing of any size. What he really remembers about those days was the way his mother would smile when frying the fish for supper. She would turn to Dave, smile and sing him a little ditty:

Little fishes in the brook,
Daddy catch them with a hook,
Mama fry them in a pan,
David eat them like a man.

After graduating from Harpursville Central School, David enlisted 26 August 1960 in the United States Army, and took his basic training at Fort Dix, NJ. He served in the Motor Pool for three years stationed at Fort Leonard, MO and in France. Upon his return to the States, David was discharged in 1963 at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

13-year-old David Earl Olin proudly displays watermelons grown in the Olin Family garden, 1953, at Doraville.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

Dapper David Olin, age 16, struts his stuff in his first new teenage outfit; suit, tie, shirt, fedora and white shoes.

—Photo Courtesy of George Olin Family

David found his true love in the "show me" state. Shirley Kinnaird, born 9 January 1946 in Plato, Texas County, MO, daughter of Wesley and Dora (Wagner) Kinnaird married David Olin 15 June 1963 in Palace, Plaski County, MO. David brought his bride east to Chenango County, NY where he found a job operating a Sunoco gas station. Later he worked for a large, independent, auto parts supply house in Norwich. He started as a counter man and worked his way into a sales and buyer position.

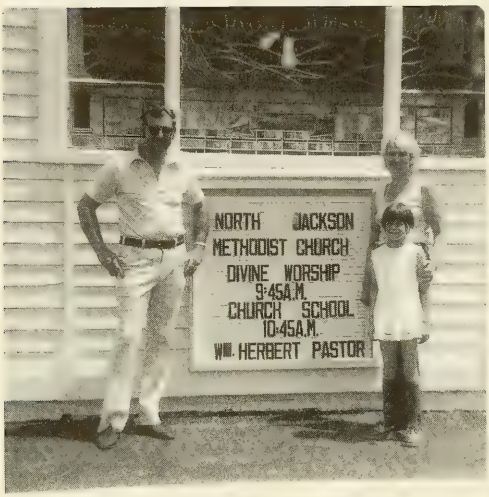
Shirley worked in various manufacturing plants, and eventually specialized in quality control. She worked as an aide at Preston Manor Nursing Home in Oxford. Dave and Shirley resided in Oxford.

Dave and Shirley are enthusiastic square dancers, card players, and enjoy eating out. They moved to Missouri in September, 1992 to be near her aging mother and the rest of the Kinnaird family. They built a new home and are both employed.

Dave and Shirley Olin have two daughters, both born in Norwich, NY: Natalie Ann, born 1 November 1964; and Trudy Jane, born 22 December 1968. Natalie Olin became a cosmetologist and married Richard E. Rice, a machinist, on 10 August 1985 in Oxford, NY. Richard Rice, born 20 June 1961, is the son of Thomas and Ruth (Smith) Rice. Natalie and Richard live in Oxford and have two children: Clara, born 14 June 1992 in Norwich; and David, born in 1995, at Sidney, NY. Richard Rice is presently working at Norwich Aero Products where he programs their special CNC machines.

Trudy Olin worked at various jobs in Chenango County and has recently relocated to North Carolina where she does computer data entry work in accounts payable.

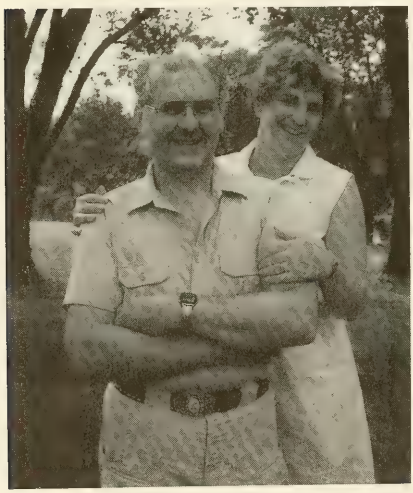
Dave works for a Ford dealership. He purchases and sells parts for their automobiles and light trucks. Shirley finished schooling as a CNA and is working as a Medical Technician with handicapped folks in Springfield, MO.



David and Shirley Olin family, 1992. Rear: David, Trudy and Natalie. Front: Shirley with granddaughter, Clara and Richard Rice, Natalie's husband.

—Photo Courtesy of David Olin Family

—Photos Courtesy of George Olin Family—



David Earl Olin, basic training 1961 for the United States Army.

Left: David Olin with his wife, Shirley Kinnaird Olin at the 1989 OLIN Reunion at Oxford, NY. At the time their home was in Oxford, NY. Now they live in Shirley's home state, Missouri.

Chapter 46

Grandson, Russel Lee Olin of Montrose, Pennsylvania

Orva L. Olin and Ida Corey Olin's third son was Russell Lee Olin, born on Sunday, 24 November 1895 in Carbondale, Lackawanna County, PA. It was a difficult birth for Ida. She died five weeks later on January 3rd, 1896. Orva married Nettie Estabrook before the year ended, perhaps in desperation because he needed a mother for his three young sons: Earl, 8 years old; George, 4 years old; and Russell, not yet one year old. Russell Olin never knew his natural mother.

Nettie Olin found it difficult to cope with her husband's absence, often weeks at a time as he made a living as a carpenter in Endicott, NY. She began to resent the responsibilities of care for her three stepsons. To compound matters, Nettie gave birth to a child of her own, a daughter, Edna Mae, who died as an infant; this added to her negative feelings. When Nettie gave birth to another daughter, Frances Wanda, in 1900, all of Nettie's love and care was centered on her daughter. This created an unhappy atmosphere in the Orva Olin family.

In 1901, Orva took what he considered the only course of action to save his marriage and means of income, yet provide a home of sorts for his sons. Fourteen-year-old Earl remained with his father and step-mother, ten year old George was indentured by contract to John A. Jones, a farmer in south Gibson, PA, and six-year-old Russell had the good fortune to be taken into the home of Cousin Minnie and her father, Uncle Omar Olin. Minnie treated Russell as though he were her own son, with love, respect and care.

Russell was dressed in respectable, clean, and warm clothes. He had his own bedroom. He went, reluctantly, to the Jackson No. 9 School on top of Slocum Hill. Russell was restless, and did not pay attention to his classes; yet, he was unexpectedly the witty one. For example, he liked to joke about his teacher and classmates. When the teacher asked him for the plural of "man" he answered "men"; for the plural of "child", he answered "twins." Or when the teacher asked him if he had five apples and Viola asked him for two, how many would he have left, Russell would answer "five." His classmates appreciated his humor, but the teacher took a dim view and sent a note to Minnie Olin.

—Photo Courtesy of Thelma Benson Tiedeman

Orva Lee Olin, flanked by his three sons from his first wife, Ida Corey Olin. Children left to right: George Omar Olin, age 10, Earl Carpenter Olin, age 13, and Russell Lee Olin, age 6. Orva's second wife, Nettie Estabrook Olin holds their daughter, Frances Wanda Olin, age 1, ca 1901.

Minnie's father, Omar, was beginning to show his old age and thought he had a practical solution to Russell's so-called misbehavior in school. He had been over to Pickering's Pond a couple of times to try his luck in fishing which proved to be not so good. So he took Russell along on his next trip. As luck would have it, they returned home with a pail full of perch and sunfish, enough for two meals. From that day on, Russell was a "hooked" fisherman. The two of them were inseparable fishing buddies until Omar died in 1913. Omar taught Russell, Isaac Walton's fisherman's rule for a nice day of fishing:

When the wind is in the north,
The skillful fisher goes not forth;
When the wind is in the east,
'Tis good for neither man or beast;
When the wind is in the south,
It blows the flies in the fish's mouth;
When the wind is in the West,
Then it is the very best!

In 1906, Russell and his brothers began communicating with each other via colorful postal cards. Russell boasted of his great fish catches, and told how far he walked to his favorite fishing holes, the homes of the "whoppers," and wished his brothers were with him. Russell did complete his grade school in 1909.

Very likely, 14-year-old Russell was experiencing happy years. Living on the OLIN Homestead with Cousin Minnie and her father kept him in touch with other family members. When he caught a coon and sold it for $2 or when he picked blueberries for market, 48 quarts for 85 cents, he was allowed to keep the money. Still he had his chores to do, such as chopping and stacking wood, tapping the maple trees, picking apples, and helping the neighbor who was working the OLIN farm. Somewhere along the way, he had the use of a dial typewriter to address a few of his postal cards. He made visits to Broome County, NY to see his brother, Earl, who took him to a circus and entertained him during a Christmas holiday.

When Minnie's father died in 1913, Minnie was relieved of tremendous responsibility. Russell was 18 years old and no longer needed her care. She focused on her future by marrying one of Jackson's school teachers, Ralph Snyder. She sold the OLIN farm to a cousin, Frank Lowe, and persuaded her sister, Daisy Sparks, to board Russell in return for his labor. Robert Sparks was a hard taskmaster, expecting as much or more from others as he could do. Russell accepted the challenge, and proved himself to be a hard and conscientious worker. The Sparks provided him with a horse and sleigh during the winter which allowed him to attend and socialize at the Jackson Baptist Church and its activities. Although he enjoyed his short stay with the Sparks, he enjoyed even more working for the nearby Wallace Babcock family. His postal cards began to show interest in the girls. Russell boarded and worked for wages on the Babcock farm when one of Babcock's teenage relatives came to stay the summer. Russell suddenly became aware of her presence. On one of his cards, he wrote, "I can't sleep when she is around . . . makes it tough to cultivate corn and potatoes."

The following winter, Russell left the Babcock farm to take a job at the Boston Food Company in Frackville, Schuylkill County, PA. Like his oldest brother, Earl, Russell left behind several broken-hearted girls. He returned shortly to Susquehanna County, this time to the

thriving village of Montrose, the county seat. He, again, was popular with the young ladies and made use of a local ditty in his correspondence:

There was a young man of Montrose,
Who had pockets in none of his clothes.
When asked by his lass
Where he carried his brass,
He said, "Darling, I pay through the nose."

Russell Lee Olin greets his brother George Omar Olin upon his return from World War I in 1919.

—Photo Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

One of Russell's friends and fishing partner was Bruce Darrow of New Milford Township. Bruce had a sister, Elsie Darrow, whom Russell took for granted, not really giving her any notice. The great news of the year included the opening of the full length of the Panama Canal and the first telephone conversation coast-to-coast, New York to San Francisco.

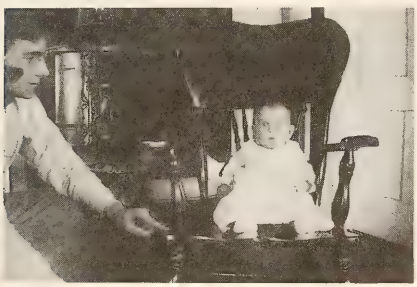
In the winter of 1917, Russell found a job in Binghamton, NY, working as a porter for the American RR Express Company. On April 6, 1917, the United States entered World War I by declaring war against Germany. On May 18, selective conscription became effective requiring all males, ages 21 through 30, to register. Twenty-one year old Russell had to sign for service draft. Both of his brothers, Earl, age 28, and George, age 24, fell within the age requirements. George was the only one of the three who was selected to go.

Meanwhile, Elsie Darrow had arrived in Binghamton and found herself a job. Whether it was a coincidence or preplanned togetherness on their part is not known. However, Russell Olin and Elsie Darrow were married in Binghamton, NY on 5 September 1918 at the Park Avenue Baptist Church by Rev. George Thompson. Russell changed jobs, and became a carpenter's assistant. The first two of four children were born in Binghamton before their return in 1921 to Montrose, PA.

Russell Lee Olin and his wife, Elsie Darrow Olin put their heads together, for what reason? ca 1946.

—Photos Courtesy of George O. Olin Family—

Elsie Darrow was born 27 March 1898 in Bridgewater Township, Susquehanna County, PA, the daughter of Harrison Darrow and Emma or Emily Cosier. Elsie was the youngest of five children and a granddaughter of Samuel Cosier of Connecticut and Mary Belarby of England. Her paternal grandparents were Orphinus Darrow, who was born in Susquehanna County and married Mary Osborn, a native of Orange County, NY. Elsie Darrow Olin was dedicated to her family and her belief in God. She was known as the best pastry chef in Montrose. She passed away in Montrose on the 20th of May 1983 and is buried in the Montrose Cemetery next to her husband, Russell Olin.



Russell Lee Olin keeps a watchful eye on his eight month old daughter, Helen Emily Olin. Photo taken February 29, 1920 in Binghamton, NY.

Russell and Elsie were involved with buying and selling lots in Oakland, Susquehanna and Herrick, Susquehanna County during 1921 and 1922, and finally deciding to make their home on Jackson Street in Montrose. Russell set up a workshop behind his house where he used his carpentry experience and his desire to work with wood. He and his shop became the neighborhood center for home repairs. During the Depression years, he owned a Model "T" Ford pick-up truck. It was always a welcome sight to see Uncle Russell and his family wheel into one of our OLIN Family Reunions. Russell Lee Olin died unexpectedly, November 15, 1948 in Montrose and was laid to rest in the Montrose Cemetery.

HELEN EMILY OLIN

Russell Lee and Elsie (Darrow) Olin were blessed with four children. The first two were daughters born in Binghamton, NY: Helen Emily Olin, born 31 July 1919; and Norma Catherine Olin, born 29 October 1920. Their second two children were sons born in Montrose, PA: James Lee Olin, born 11 January 1922; and Gene Earl Olin, born 11 December 1924.

Helen writes about her early memories and her family:

"The most outstanding memory of my youthful years was the Great Depression. Being the oldest of four children, I remember Dad working hard at whatever he could find to do to provide for his family. He was up to dawn working in a large garden to provide food which mother, with our help, canned and preserved. Dad taught us the importance of work. He often said, 'work before pleasure,' so we got the chores done early, especially on days that we wanted to go swimming. We thought part of the fun was to ride in the back of his Model 'T' Ford truck. Memorial Day was special when our family and another would have a picnic together at a pond and, if it was warm enough, go swimming.

"After graduating from high school, I was fortunate to get a job as a telephone operator for Sardoni Telephone Company in Montrose at 16 cents an hour, swing shift at that. Before marriage, I worked as a receptionist in a doctor's office for $16 a week, and was able to save some money at the time.

"When I married Paul A. Bunnell, born 29 February 1920, son of

Arthur and Ruth (Keithline) Bunnell of Auburn, Susquehanna County, PA in 1941, he worked at a GLF (Grange League Federation) Feed Store for $18 a week. With that income, we paid rent and bought groceries, even had a car. A year-and-a-half later, we bought a small, operating farm and moved there with our two-month old son, Bill. Another son, David and two daughters, Marcia and Susan, were born and raised on that farm where we still live 53 years later. In the meantime, our oldest son, William Paul Bunnell, born 1942, graduated from Elk Lake High School in 1960. He went on to Houghton College, Houghton, NY for his BS Degree and to Temple University for his MD Degree."

"He took his residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse, NY, and a fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedics at DuPont, Wilmington, DE and served as Surgeon-in-Chief at the DuPont

Paul and Helen Olin Bunnell with their children in 1991. Left to right: William Paul, Susan Jean Bunnell, Marcia Lee Bunnell and David Arthur Bunnell.

—Photo Courtesy of Paul Bunnell Family

Institute. In July 1987, William Bunnell accepted the position of Professor and Chairman of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Loma Linda, CA. He has authored over 40 scientific publications and invented the scoliometer.

William Paul Bunnell married Marcia Ann Facer, born 1942 in Newark, Wayne County, NY on 7 August 1965 at Newark. She has taught in junior high schools. William and Marcia have two daughters: Jennifer Ruth, born 1969, Staten Island, NY and married to George Ahrend, 1991 in Redlands, CA; and Christine Grace, born 1971 in Syracuse, NY and married to Jonathan Clouse, 1993 in Redlands, CA."

Helen Bunnell's story continues:

"Our other son, David A. Bunnell, born 1945, graduated from Elk Lake School District in 1963 and attended Houghton College two years before transferring to Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana where he obtained his BS Degree in Business Administration. He received his JD Degree from Indiana University Law School and worked nine years for a law firm in Dallas, TX. David served for a while as Managing Director of a Dallas Merchant Banking Firm and is presently Senior Vice-President of Corporate Development for a fresh food company in Dallas, TX.

"David A. Bunnell married Lynne Eileen Barker, born 1944 in Grove City, Mercer County, PA, daughter of Chester and Ruth Barker, in 1966 in Houghton College, NY. Lynne taught first grade before beginning their family. The Bunnells have three children: Jason Matthew, born 1973; Jessica Lynne, born 1978; and Rebecca Leslie, born 1983, all born in Dallas, TX.

"Our daughter, Marcia Lee Bunnell, born 1947, graduated from Elk Lake School District in 1965 and received her BA from Houghton College. She spent six years teaching fourth grade in Indianapolis, IN before moving to Dallas, TX where she earned an MBA from SMU (Southern Methodist University). Marcia joined the Interfirst Bank of Dallas in 1976 with their credit training program. After many promotions, she is now a Senior Vice-President in their Special Credit Area.

"Our second daughter and last child, Susan Jean Bunnell, born 1956, graduated from Elk Lake School District in 1974 and received her BA from Houghton College. She worked for Continental Insurance Company in Buffalo, NY five years before transferring within the Company to Dallas, TX. Susan earned her MBA from SMU in 1987 and holds the coveted CPCU designation in insurance. She is presently a Senior Commercial Insurance Underwriter with Continental Insurance,

Dallas, TX.

Helen concludes her family story:

"Paul has retired twice, first from full-time farming and again from full-time carpentry/contracting. He has repaired, remodeled, and built new barns, houses and two new Baptist Churches, one in Springville and one at Forest Lake, both in Susquehanna County. Since his retirement, we have enjoyed visiting our families in Texas and California at least once a year. In 1991, our family treated us to a family dinner, extended family picnic, and an open house at our church to celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary. All of our children and grandchildren (5) were able to attend as well as aunts, uncles, cousins and friends, all of which has shown the blessing of God through the years."

NORMA CATHERINE OLIN

Russell and Elsie's second daughter, Norma Catherine Olin, born 29 October 1920, finished her 12 years of schooling in Montrose. She married Byron James Overfield, born 1916, son of William and Lena (McGavin) Overfield from Auburn, PA, in 1945 at Nanticoke, Luzerne County, PA. Byron Overfield served his country during World War II in the United States Army. When he returned home, he was anxious to marry the girl he had left behind, and who had waited for his return.

Bryon worked for the United States Agriculture Department. Their home was in the Village of Montrose. Byron had a favorite place to get away for relaxation; an old abandoned stone quarry farm where he maintained a small grove of christmas trees. He spent many hours planting and grooming his trees, content with the peace and quiet atmosphere.

On his job, Byron was a strong advocate for contour farming, catch basin ponds, and selective forestry practices. He continued to volunteer his service and expertise long after his official retirement. The Susquehanna County Forest Landowners' Association awarded Byron a special plaque in 1993 for his service to the forest community.

Norma worked in a local bakery for many years. Norma was close to her mother and stayed with her during the last of her difficult years.

Byron and Norma had one child, Dennis Olin Overfield, born 1948 in Montrose, who married Joan Ellen Thiele born 1949 in Jamaica, Queens County, NY. Her parents were Elmer and Ethel (Stein) Thiele.

—Photo Courtesy of Overfield Family

Russell Lee and Elsie Darrow Olin family, ca 1970. Rear: Left to right: Paul Bunnell, Helen Olin Bunnell, Elsie Darrow Olin, Norma Olin Overfield, Byron "Dick" Overfield. Front: Left to right: Gene Earl Olin, Eva Mae "Peg" Conklin Olin, Margaret Bolles Olin and James Lee Olin.

—Photos Courtesy of Overfield Family—

Norma C. Olin Overfield and Byron "Dick" Overfield, November 1984.

Dennis Olin Overfield and Joan Thiele Overfield with their two children, Karen and Gregory, 1992.

Joan is a librarian. Dennis has a degree in and works as an Electrical Engineer. Although they were married in 1972 in Quogue, Suffolk County, NY, they have lived for the most part in Connecticut. Dennis and Joan (Thiele) Overfield have two children: Karen Emily, born 1983 in Bridgeport, CT; and Gregory David, born 1988 in Olathe, KS.

JAMES LEE OLIN

Russell L. and Elsie (Darrow) Olin's first son, James Lee Olin, was born Wednesday, January 11, 1922 in Montrose shortly after the Olins returned to Montrose from Binghamton. Jim graduated from Montrose High School and, like his father, became an ardent fisherman. During his "growing up" years, Jim worked willingly to help his mother and father with gardening, canning and any other chores necessary for family survival during the Great Depression of the 1930s. He and his brother helped Russell on some local jobs, and when he was paid for work, he turned his money over to his parents as many of us did during those hard years.

The Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Within days, in December, James Lee Olin, 19 years old, enlisted in the United States Air Force. During World War II, Jim served his country as a parachute rigger for combat crews in the 15th Troop Carrier Squadron. The crews flew in C-47 aircraft and were dropped as air-borne paratroopers into enemy territory. The troops were also dropped from gliders that were towed behind aircraft.

After participating in the invasion of Sicily and Southern Italy, the 15th Troop Carrier Squadron was transferred to England in preparation for the European invasion by the Allies. Once the invasion was underway, the Squadron was moved into France. When the Germans surrendered, Jim's squadron was transferred to Natal, Brazil, to fly American troops home to the United States. Natal was located five degrees south of the Equator on the most eastern tip of South America. Jim was fortunate to be able to visit with his brother, Gene Olin, on two different occasions in England. On one of his visits, Jim found himself talking to Gene's Operations Officer, Jimmy Stewart, one of Hollywood's famous movie actors.

Jim, like most other GIs, wondered about his future as a civilian. How would he make a living? Could he afford to marry and raise a family and have a home and car? Although he was not a drinking or

a gambling man, it was hard to save any money on his $21 a month. He did have some spare time, so he started to give his buddies haircuts for 25 cents. It was not long before Jim was recognized unofficially as the Squadron Barber. That was over 50 years ago!

Jim became a full-time civilian barber in his own shop in Montrose, PA. He still cuts hair but, as he says, "If I feel like going fishing, I close the shop for an afternoon or a day. If I feel like taking a trip with my wife, I close the shop for days or even weeks. The customers seem to understand."

On April 20, 1946, James Lee Olin married Margaret (Peg) Elizabeth Bolles, daughter of Ray James and Edna (Swackhammer) Bolles. Margaret was born 19 June 1923 in Montrose and graduated from Dimock High School; she was the only girl in a family of four.

Jim Olin had the opportunity to bring home a silk parachute used by the allies during the invasion of Italy during WWII. His mother designed and sewed a wedding dress from the white, silk material for her son's bride, Margaret Bolles. After 50 years of marriage the dress still fits Magaret.

The Bolles family has a long recorded history from the year 1608. An area in Susquehanna County between Fairdale and Grangerville is known as Bolles Flat.

The marriage of Jim and Margaret resulted in the birth of five beautiful daughters, 4 with red hair and one a blonde. Jacqueline Nancy Olin, born 2 October 1947 in Montrose received her BS and Master's Degrees in Elementary Education from Millersville University near Lancaster, PA. She married Edward Balderston, Jr., 1969 at Montrose, PA. Edward was also born in 1947, the son of Edward and Jean (Candy) Balderston. He attended many colleges to enhance his

banking career: Bucks College, PA in 1970 for his BA; Bucknell School of Banking, in 1974, New Jersey Data Processing School in 1976; American Institute of Banking in 1978; and University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, LA, where he received a BA in Business in 1987 and a MBA in 1990. During his 27 years of work and schooling, Edward has received many professional certificates.

Jacqueline and Edward Balderston, Jr. have no children. Jackie teaches elementary school and is very active in her church in Millersville, PA. She sings in the choir, teaches Sunday School and served as a church elder. Jackie wrote this short note, "I have very fond memories of our OLIN Reunions when I was young. I remember singing with my sisters and listening to my cousins perform. Ed and I travel a lot, both in the US (Florida, Texas, California, Washington, Alaska, etc.) and other countries (Canada, Switzerland, etc.)."

Jim and Margaret's second daughter, Barbara Jean Olin, was born 27 July 1950 in Binghamton, NY. She graduated from Montrose Area High School in 1968 and received her Associate Degree in Business Administration from Penn State University in 1970. She graduated from Mary Washington College, Fredericksburgh, VA in 1995 with a BA in Gerontological Studies. Barbara has worked in various accounting and business management positions including Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce for Lancaster, PA. Her interests are music, arts, photography, cats, people, and hiking.

Jim and Margaret Olin's third daughter, Natalie Anne Olin, born 27 June 1953 in Binghamton, NY finished high school in Montrose. She graduated from the Geisinger Medical Center School of Nursing,

—Photo Courtesy of James Olin Family

James Lee and Margaret "Peg" (Bolles) Olin in the fall of 1993.

Jim Olin's Barber Shop, 1988 in Montrose, Susquehanna County, PA. Jim is standing in the doorway of his shop where he began full time barbering when he returned from WWII. He expects to complete 50 years of barbering in 1996.

—Photo Courtesy of James Olin Family

Danville, PA, in 1973 as an RN and graduated in 1975 from Millersville University, PA with a BS Degree in Education. Natalie is a Staff Nurse at Guthrie Clinic (Wellsboro, PA, Family Practice) and teaches Anatomy, Physiology and Medical Terminology at Pennsylvania College of Technology North Campus in Wellsboro, Tioga County, PA. She received Penn-Tech's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1995.

In 1975, at Montrose, Natalie Olin married John R. Deleonardis, born 1952 in Pittsburgh, PA, son of Anthony J. and Eleanor (Toselli) Deleonardis. Both sets of John's grandparents were immigrants from Italy. John also graduated in 1975 from Millersville University and taught Special Education for 16 years. He earned a Master's Degree from Mansfield University, Tioga County, PA and currently teaches elementary school.

John and Natalie (Olin) Deleonardis have three children: Andrew James, born 1980; Tyler John, born 1985; and Joy Elizabeth, born 1988, all in Wellsboro, Tioga County, PA. Natalie writes a short note about their children, "Andy likes his sports, especially football and track. Tyler enjoys baseball and soccer and Joy plays soccer. All three are avid readers and sing in various choral groups." John and Natalie have worked with the Covington Baptist Church Youth Programs since 1977. John has served as the Director of the Youth Program (AWANA) since 1984.

—Photos Courtesy of James Olin Family

James and Peg Olin family, Christmas, 1993. Left to Right: — Standing: John DeLeonardis, Jackie Balderston, Ed Balderston, Suzanne Winn, Phil Winn. Center: Joy DeLeonardis, Tyler DeLeonardis, Joshua Winn. Seated: Andy DeLeonardis, Natalie DeLeonardis, Miriam Olin, Barbara Olin, Jim Olin and Margaret Olin.

Jim and Margaret Olin's fourth daughter, Miriam E. Olin, born 28 February 1955 in Binghamton, NY finished high school in Montrose and secured a job as secretary in a business in Vestal, Broome County, NY. She advanced to the Purchasing Agent's Assistant before the business was sold.

Jim and Margaret's youngest daughter is Suzanne Marie Olin, born 15 May 1959 in Montrose, PA and known as "Suzy" in her family and by her friends. Upon completion of high school, Suzy graduated from the Baptist Bible College in Clark-Summit, PA. She taught in two different Christian Elementary Schools a number of years before her marriage to photographer, Phillip C. Winn, in Montrose, 1992. Suzy is currently a part-time field worker in Child Evangelism Fellowship of Susquehanna County, PA located in Montrose.

Philip Winn, born 1955, Gowanda, Cattaraugus County, NY is a son of Loren and Barbara (Crandall) Winn. In 1993, Phillip and Suzy purchased a piece of property that included a reusable foundation. In Phillip's words, "Part of the cleanup included over 30 large garbage bags full of bottles and cans! Then we had our new modular house

placed on that foundation." Both Phil and Suzy are talented vocalists.

On Monday, July 4th, 1994, 218 years after the birth of our great nation, Suzy Olin Winn gave birth to a son, Jared Crandall Winn. The birth was witnessed by her two nine-month coaches: her husband, Phillip; and her sister, Natalie, and, of course, her mother. Phillip Winn has another son, Joshua D. Winn, born 1982, from a previous marriage.

Jared Crandall Winn, son of Phil and Suzanne Olin Winn June, 1955.

—Photo Courtesy of James Olin Family

Margaret Bolles Olin wrote, "Jim and I are looking forward to celebrating our 50th Wedding Anniversary in April, 1996, Lord willing. It has been a happy almost 50 years and the Lord has blessed us with a wonderful family: five daughters, three sons-in-law, and five grandchildren. There have been a few 'ups and downs' during these years but many more blessings; in particular, we praise the Lord for our good health, especially after Jim had triple by-pass heart surgery in 1990. Since our children have 'left the nest' and my retirement from the United States Postal Service (27 plus years), we have taken numerous trips, most of them with our daughter and son-in-law, Jackie and Ed Balderston. Jim and I enjoy our home built by brother Gene on OLIN Road, our vegetable garden and lawn work, our children and grandchildren and the frequent 'get togethers' during the years with our precious family."

GENE EARL OLIN

Russell and Elsie (Darrow) Olin's second son and youngest child of four was Gene Earl Olin, born 11 December 1924 in Montrose, Susquehanna County, PA. World War II was in full progress by the time Gene finished High School in Montrose. He enlisted in the United

Left Half: Gene Earl Olin, his mother, Elsie Darrow Olin, his wife, Eva Mae "Peg" Conklin Olin and their four year old Richard R. Olin. Right Half: Byron J. "Dick" Overfield, his wife, Norma Catherine Olin Overfield and their 10 year old son, Dennis Olin Overfield at the 1958 OLIN Reunion in Windsor, NY.

— Photos Courtesy of George O. Olin Family —

The Paul A. and Helen Olin Bunnell family at the 1958 OLIN Reunion in Windsor, NY. Children, left to right: 13 year old David Arthur, 2 year old Susan Jean, 16 year old William Paul, and 11 year old Marcia Lee.

States Air Force on the 26th of February, 1943 and received extensive training in aircraft gunnery and bombs. Gene was a "Bomb Jockey," loading and unloading 100 to 500 pound bombs on aircraft that dropped them over enemy territory. Gunnery training included aircraft, machine

guns, and cannons, as well as his personal sidearm.

Gene's Group in the 8th Air Force participated in securing Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe. Gene received decorative ribbons for European, African and Middle East action. He was awarded six bronze stars and the Good Conduct medal. Gene Olin was discharged from service as a Sergeant of Military Munitions Works on the 25th of October, 1945 in New Jersey.

Gene married Eva Mae "Peg" Conklin, daughter of Floyd E. and Genevieve M. (Snyder) Conklin, on 28 November at Conklin Forks, Susquehanna County, PA. Peg was born 14 June 1926 at Silver Lake, Susquehanna County, and had just received her nursing education at Robert Packer Hospital School of Nursing in Sayre, Bradford County, PA. As a registered nurse, Peg practiced her nursing skills in hospitals, schools, and private duty, and ended her career as a school Nurse Practitioner.

Gene and Peg Conklin Olin have two children: Richard Russell Olin, born 17 July 1954 in Meshoppen, Wyoming County, PA, married Elaine Marie Kurosky on 19 August 1978 in Montrose, PA. Elaine was born in Montrose 11 November 1956, daughter of Leo F. and Elizabeth M. (Kane) Kurosky. Elaine, a computer programmer analyst and health insurance specialist, travels extensively in her employment. Richard is a Civil Engineer and Chief of Water Control Management for the Army Corps of Engineers. His jobs have taken him to many states in the USA. Richard and Elaine Olin are presently living in Mt. Airy, MD.

Gene and Peg Conklin Olin's daughter, Jeanine Carole Olin was born 30 December 1957 in Montrose and has worked several years as a psychiatric Social Worker in Utica and Saratoga Springs, NY. Jeanine now has a private practice as a Psychotherapist and works in a hospital setting as a Certified Diabetic Educator. She lives in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Peg Conklin Olin writes:

"The carpenter and building skills and desires of the OLIN ancestors were passed down to my husband, Gene Olin, who made excellent use of them. He learned a lot from his father, Russell Olin, and, as a veteran, attended a trade school where he earned his master carpenter designation. Gene was endowed with a lot of common sense and soon established himself as a building contractor in the Montrose area. He built over 85 houses in 45 years.

Eva Mae "Peg" Conklin Olin with her bashful father-in-law, Russell Lee Olin, 1948 in Montrose.

— Photos Courtesy of Peg Olin —

The proud parents at Gene Earl Olin and Eva Mae "Peg" Conklin's wedding, 28 November 1947. Left to right: Floyd E. Conklin, Russell L. Olin, Elsie Darrow Olin and Genevieve M. Conklin.

His interest in community projects and affairs was equaled by his participation. Gene was a member of the United Fire Company of Montrose for more than 50 years and served as its Chief for many years. He was a 50-year member of the Montrose United Methodist church, a 25-year member of the USAF Reserves (retiring as Chief Master Sergeant), member of the Ayres-Stone Post, VFW and a member

of the Knights of Pythias.

"Gene had a by-pass surgery in 1980, and recovered to continue his building business another 14 years. He suffered a major heart attack in 1992 from which he never fully recovered. Gene died peacefully in his sleep on April 29, 1994 in Montrose and was buried next to his parents in the Montrose Cemetery."

—Photo Courtesy of Geroge O. Olin Family

Paired off at the 1989 Olin Family Reunion at Oxford, NY. Left to Right: Paul and Helen Olin Bunnell, Byron "Dick" and Norma Olin Overfield and James "Jim" and Margaret Bolles Olin.

Chapter 47

Orva Lee Olin's Second Family

Orva Lee Olin and Nettie Estabrook's marriage resulted in three children. Edna Mae Olin was born 19 February, 1899 in Jackson and died two months later 18 April, 1899. She was laid to rest in the Jackson Baptist Church Cemetery.

FRANCES WANDA OLIN

The Olin's second child, another daughter, Frances Wanda Olin, was born 16 June, 1900 in Jackson. She moved with her parents in 1904 to Endicott, NY and in 1906 returned to Ararat, a neighboring Township of Jackson in Susquehanna County, PA. Her schooling started in Ararat and finished in 1919 when she graduated from high school in Thompson, PA. A high school romance blossomed into a serious courtship. Two weeks after her graduation, 19-year-old Wanda, the name she preferred over Frances, and 19-year-old Gerald Walker, also from Ararat and her graduating class, eloped. They traveled to Monroeton, Bradford County, PA where they were united in marriage on the 11th day of June, 1919 by John H. Willis, Justice of the Peace.

Gerald Merl Walker was the son of Montraville Vernon Walker, born in Ararat and Rose Catherine Glover, born in England. The Walkers had a productive farm that included acres of prized, high bush, blueberries. Gerald managed to secure a job with the Erie Railroad in their repair yard and shops in Susquehanna.

Gerald loved automobiles, and he had two Model "T" Fords before acquiring a new Model "A" Ford in late 1932. Meanwhile, Gerald and Wanda Walker had a son, Harold Stuart Walker, born 24 August 1923 in Susquehanna, PA.

The Erie Railroad connected Chicago with New York City. Its tracks ran through Susquehanna and other selected cities where various repair shops were located. In Susquehanna, Gerald Walker performed any and all jobs asked of him. His abilities and attitude were recognized by the Erie management, so, they asked Gerald to transfer from the yards in Susquehanna to the yards in Hornell, Steuben County,

NY as a laborer. Gerald recognized the advancement opportunities and moved his family to Hornell in 1927 and was promoted to "machinist" in 1931.

—Photo Courtesy of Harold Walker Family

Gerald Merl and F. Wanda (Olin) Walker with their son, Harold Stuart Walker, and a new Model "A" Ford, 1933.

Again in 1932, the Erie management persuaded Gerald to relocate, this time to their yard and shops in Marion, Ohio. Shortly after his arrival in Marion, Gerald was promoted to "inspector" and, in 1936, another promotion to "Chief Inspector" of the Erie Railroad System. Not bad for a farm boy from Pennsylvania during the height of the Great Depression.

The Walker's social life centered around the Masonic Lodge. Gerald was an early member from his days in Susquehanna and Hornell. Wanda belonged to the Lydia Chapter, No.83, Order of the Easter Star at Marion, OH. The Walkers liked to travel, especially to visit families. They had the advantage of having employee rail passes and, of course, Gerald kept up-to-date with his automobiles.

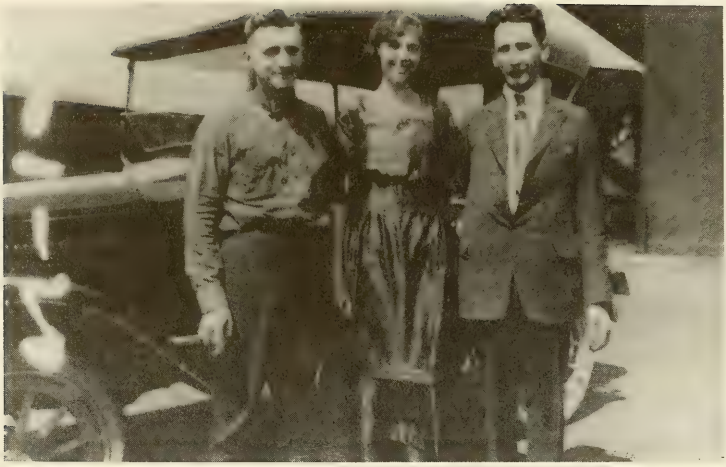
Young Harold Walker enjoyed summer vacations back on his grandfather's farm in Ararat. He earned pocket-money picking blueberries for five cents a quart and was allowed to buy one tall cone of ice cream a day for five cents at Slocum's General Store in Ararat.

Slocum owned 18 different pieces of property around Ararat during the Depression years. Slocum kept customer credit books and, when he thought the amount owed to him was much too high for both the family and himself, he would obtain title to their house and lot or farm. Slocum was not a hard-hearted man. He allowed the people to use the house, have a garden and a cow, a few chickens and perhaps a pig. Slocum had the hay cut and sold, made use of the barns and pastures for raising young stock. If the store bill, by chance, was paid in full, Slocum would deed the property back to the happy family. Gerald Walker's sister, Vera, married Slocum and moved to the Triple Cities in Broome County, NY.

—Photo Courtesy of Harold Walker Family

Orva Lee Olin, his daughter, Frances Wanda (Olin) Walker and his daughter-in-law, Leona (Ruland) Olin, wife of George Omar Olin, ca 1920.

Tragedy struck the Walker family on the 5th of September, 1933. Frances Wanda (Olin) Walker died in a train wreck. She was in the prime of her life, only 33 years old. Wanda was enroute, via Erie Railroad, from her home in Marion, Ohio, to Susquehanna, PA, where she intended to visit her parents, Orva and Nettie Olin and to pick up her son, Harold, at the Monta Walker farm. Harold was scheduled to begin his fifth grade in the Marion School System.



—Photo Courtesy of Harold Walker Family

Gerald Merl Walker poses with his brother-in-law, George Omar Olin and George's wife, Leona Ruland Olin, ca 1921. (on their honeymoon)

Shortly after Wanda's passenger train cleared the Binghamton Depot, a heavily loaded milk train rammed into the rear of the passenger train at the foot of the New York State Hospital Hill. A total of ten lives were lost as the wooden coaches were telescoped by a steel car. Wanda Walker was in a wooden coach, third from the rear. It took several hours before her body was identified. A match was finally made from the initials W. W. in a bracelet on her arm and an unclaimed purse elsewhere in the coach. The purse was hers, having her Eastern Star Lodge card. Wanda's funeral took place in the Methodist Church in Ararat, perhaps the largest attended funeral in the history of Ararat.

The Walker family of Ohio was reduced to father and a ten-year-old son. They adjusted their lives accordingly. Harold had been trying hard to play the violin to satisfy his mother's wishes. However, Harold was unable to master drawing the bow across the strings without making chilling "squeaks and squawks" as his father put it. Shortly after Wanda's death, Gerald switched his son's musical training from the violin to the piano. He purchased a new piano in order for Harold to have his lessons at home and for necessary practice. He contracted for lessons with a well-known local piano teacher, Clara Leffler. Three

—Photo Courtesy of Harold Walker Family

Olin and Walker family members mourn the loss of Frances "Wanda" Olin Walker who died in an Erie Rail Road Train accident near Binghamton, Broome County, NY on Tuesday, September 5, 1933. Wanda was the 33-year-old daughter of Orva and Nettie Estabrook Olin, wife of Gerald M. Walker and mother of ten-year-old Harold S. Walker. Photo was taken Saturday September 9, 1933 at her grave site in Ararat, Susquehanna County, PA.

Left to Right: First couple unidentified, George O. Olin, Nettie Estabrook Olin, LeGrande Olin, Gerald M. Walker, Leona Ruland Olin, Montraville Walker, Harold S. Walker, Rosa Glover Walker, next three unidentified, Orva L. Olin, Elsie Darrow Olin and Russell L. Olin.

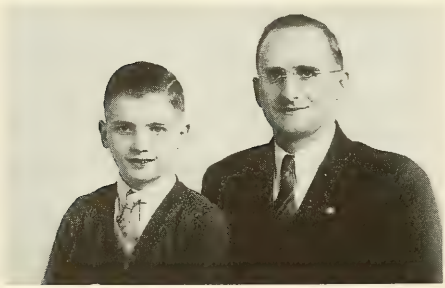
years later, in 1936, Gerald Merl Walker and Clara Helen Leffler signed another contract, in marriage. Gerald and his son moved into the hugh Queen Anne's mansion that Clara owned.

Gerald considered himself a "Jack of all trades." He performed his own carpentry, plumbing, masonry, and electrical work. Gerald went about making repairs and alterations to the Queen Anne style house, in an unorthodox manner accompanied by dry humor. Once, when the mailman asked Gerald why all the rooms were painted the same green color, Gerald responded, "It made the job of painting these tall rooms easier if I carried the same bucket of paint from room to room." Gerald cleverly converted most of the original gas lighting fixtures into electric. The house had it's own water supply, pump, and cistern. Gerald

reluctantly hooked the house and city water together, drawing a line; use the city water for cooking and drinking and the cistern water for all else.

The marriage of Gerald Walker and Clara Leffler resulted in no additional issue. Gerald Merl Walker died in 1963 in Marion, Ohio and Clara Leffler Walker died in 1980, Columbus, Ohio. She was 91 years old. She left her stately, Queen Anne home to her stepson, Harold Walker. Harold married Norma Jane Altenberger in 1944 in Marion, Ohio. Norma was the daughter of Harold and Rosetta (Clark) Altenberger and secretary for the Treasurer of the Marion City School System. She retired in 1987. Norma is an accomplished interior decorator, bringing life to the dreary interior of the Queen Anne house.

Harold Stuart and Norma (Altenberger) Walker, ca 1980



Gerald Merl Walker and his son, Harold Stuart Walker, ca 1935.

—Photos Courtesy of Harold Walker family.

Harold S. Walker served three years during World War II in the 399th Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Armored Division, Battery "C" of the 3rd Army. He completed college after returning home from the Army. In 1949, Harold began working for the Ohio Edison Company (Utility), retiring from the same, after 39 years in 1988. Harold worked his way through Ohio Edison starting as home appliance salesman, progressing through lineman, sub-station electrician, to sub-station clerk. Harold Stuart Walker died March 26, 1990 in Marion, Ohio.

Harold and Norma Walker had two children. A son, Gregory G. Walker, was born 1943, Marion, Ohio, who married Rosemary Ann Rayner in 1969, Marion, Ohio. They have two children: Scott G. Walker, born 1970; and Angela L. Walker, born 1974, both in Marion. Gregory C. Walker has over 22 years of service in Whirlpool Corporation, makers of washers and dryers, and is a Quality Control Electronics Engineer. His wife, Rosemary, is Secretary in the Marion City School District.

Gregory Walker's second marriage, 1981, was to Janet Eileen Gregg Schleenbaker. Janet is an inspector at Whirlpool Corp. and has three children: Philip E. Gregg, born 1963; Julie Ann Schleenbaker, born 1965 who married Todd Rosebrough in 1987; and Jill Elaine Schleenbaker, born 1971.

Harold and Norma Walker's other child, Sue Ann Walker, was born in 1951, Marion, Ohio and married Thomas D. Beightler in 1980 at Las Vegas, Nevada. Thomas was born, 1953, in Marysville, Union County, Ohio, the son of Darwin E. Beightler and Connie A. (Fisher) Beightler. Thomas is a lineman for the Glenwood Range Company of Delaware, Ohio. His wife, Sue Ann works in an accounting office. They have two children: Jason Lee, born 1984; and Jonathan David, born 1987, both in Marion, Ohio.

LeGRANDE E. OLIN

Orva Lee Olin and Nettie Estabrook Olin's third child and the youngest of Orva's six children was a son, LeGrande E. Olin, born 14 September 1907 in Ararat, PA. LeGrande attended his first years of schooling in the Ararat schools and graduated from either Thompson or Susquehanna High School, ca 1926. He was known to have been active in the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1929, LeGrande Olin eloped with a cousin, Leona G. Lowe, causing conflicting emotions within the Olin and Lowe family. Leona Lowe was born, 1911 in Thompson, PA. Her father, Leon Lowe, had moved to Franklin, Delaware County, NY. LeGrande and Leona were

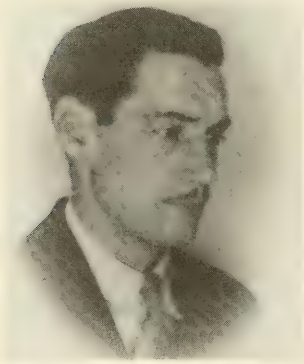
—Photo Courtesy of Harold Walker Family.

Left to Right: Orva L. Olin, Leona Ruland Olin, Nettie Estabrook Olin, Wanda Olin Walker, Gerald M. Walker, and LeGrande Olin. Photo was taken ca 1920 at Orva Olin's Farm in Jackson, PA.

married in Harpersfield, Delaware County, and had a daughter, Mildred Ethel Olin, born 1930 in Susquehanna, PA. Mildred Olin married Gordon Douglas, 1949, in Hartwick, Otsego County, NY and they have no children.

LeGrande suddenly died in 1933 and Leona Lowe Olin married Edward Jacobson. Leona Lowe Olin Jacobson died 1941 in Oneonta, Otsego County, NY having no more children.

More details about the LeGrande and Leona Olin marriage can be found in Part XI, Chapter 42, the History of the Lowe Family.



LeGrande Olin, son of Orva and Nettie Olin, husband of Leona Lowe and father of Mildred Olin. He died November 1933 at age 26.

Mildred Ethel Olin, daughter of Leona Lowe and LeGrande Olin, ca 1935.

—Photos Courtesy of George O. Olin Family

Leona Lowe Olin just before the birth of her daughter, Mildred Ethel, 1930 in Susquehanna County, PA.

CHART - 21

THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

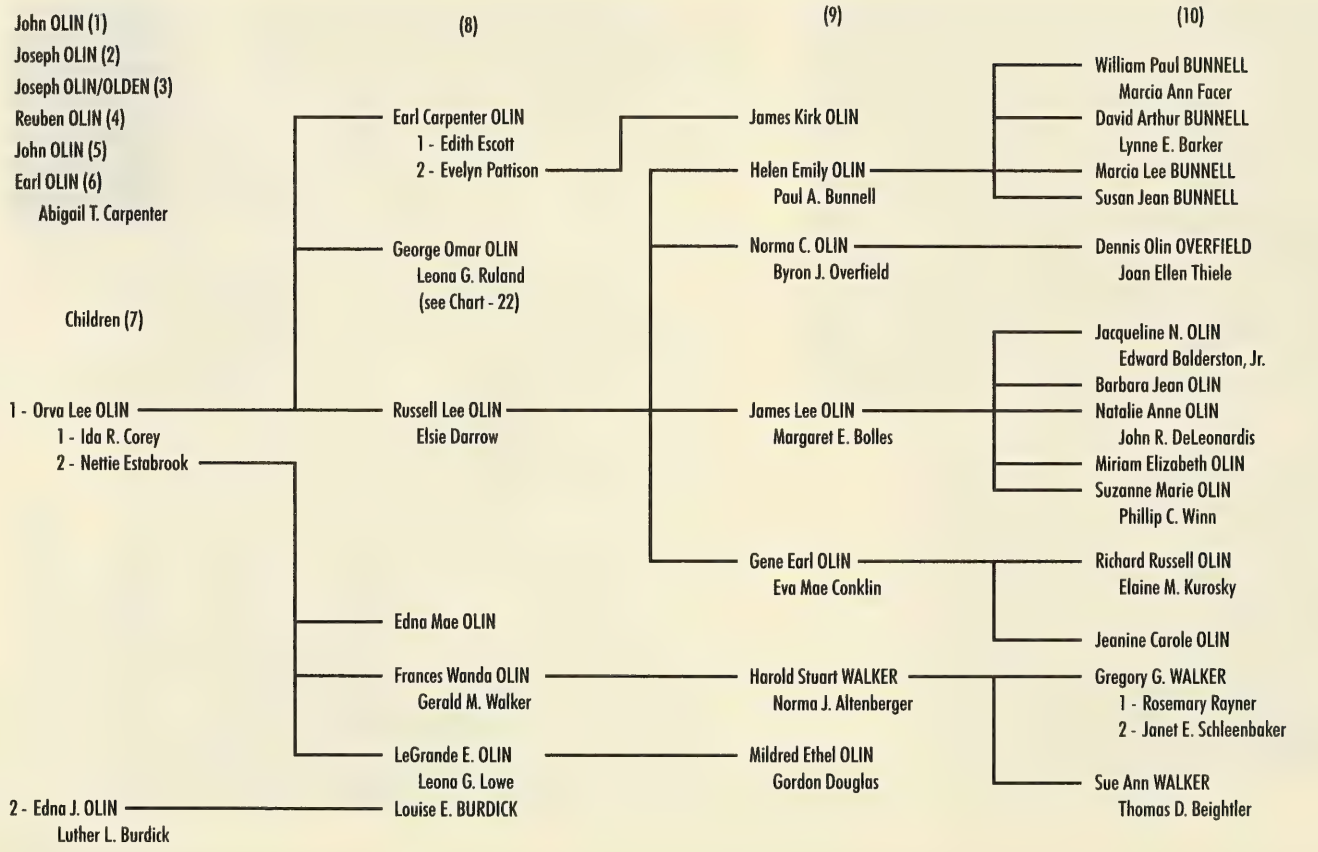


CHART - 22 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

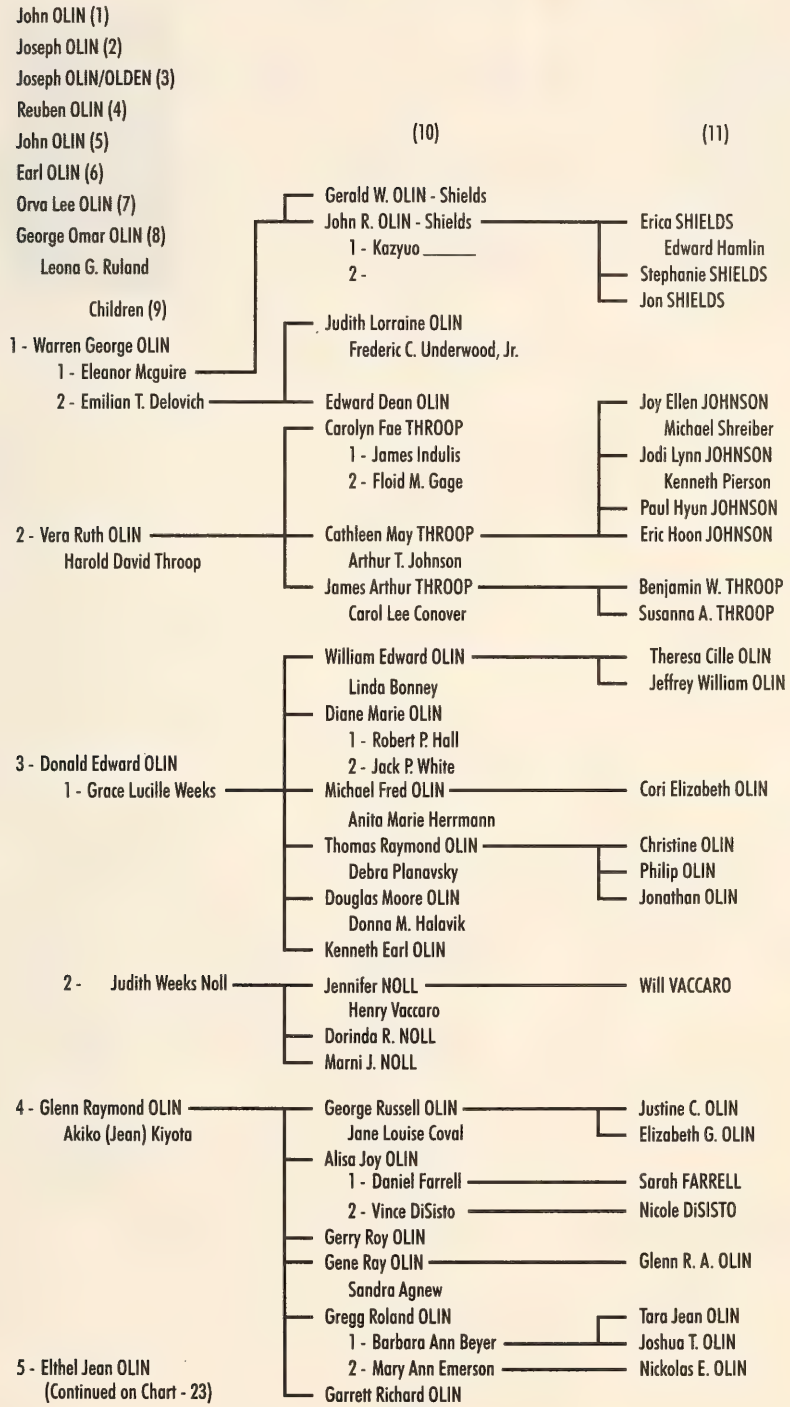


CHART - 23 THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF JOSEPH OLIN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

(Continued from Chart - 22)

John OLIN (1)
Joseph OLIN (2)
Joseph OLIN/OLDEN (3)
Reuben OLIN (4)
John OLIN (5)
Earl OLIN (6)
Orva Lee OLIN (7)
George Omar OLIN (8)
Leona G. Ruland

Children (9)

(10)

(11)

- Barbara L. OLIVER
  - Peter M. Gonzalez
    - Christopher D. CONZALEZ
    - Corrine M. GONZALEZ
    - Deanna E. GONZALEZ
- Charles Edward OLIVER
  - 1 - Kimberly Ann Bush
    - Kasey Laine OLIVER
    - Timothy Wm. OLIVER
  - 2 - Janet DeCelle
- Susan Jane OLIVER
  - Michael D. Takada
    - Julia M. TAKADA
    - Laura TAKADA
    - Anna TAKADA
- Cynthia Jo OLIVER
  - 1 - Albert J. Dauphinais, Jr.
    - Lindsey O. DAUPHINAIS
    - Jillian R. DAUPHINAIS
  - 2 - Donald McMahon
- 5 - Ethel Jean OLIN
  - Edward Frank Oliver
  - Patricia Jean OLIVER
  - Robert Roy OLIVER
- 6 - Ann Joyce OLIN
  - Richard G. Powell
  - John David POWELL
  - Carol Ann POWELL
  - Daniel James POWELL
  - Mark Andrew POWELL
- 7 - Lois Marie OLIN
  - 1 - Frank Jannusewski
  - 2 - Elwood R. Stutler
  - 3 - Forrest Meredith
  - Victoria L. JANNUSEWSKI
    - Gregory L. Steinke
      - Heather Marie STEINKE
      - Jennifer L. STEINKE
  - Stephen L. JANNUSEWSKI
    - Anabella deCosio deRivas
      - Stacey T. JANNUSEWSKI
      - Whitney M. JANNUSEWSKI
  - Ruth J. JANNUSEWSKI
    - 1 - Donald Vilandre
      - Donna L. VILANDRE
      - Kevin R. VILANDRE
    - 2 - Gregory L. Steinke
      - George E. VERNON
  - Andrew J. JANNUSEWSKI
    - 1- Sascha Alexander
      - Alexander D. JANNUSEWSKI
      - Andreas D. JANNUSEWSKI
    - 2 - Klaudia Sauer
      - Jessika D. JANNUSEWSKI
- 8 - David Earl OLIN
  - Shirley Kinnaird
  - Natalie Ann OLIN
    - Richard E. Rice
      - Clara RICE
      - David RICE
  - Trudy Jane OLIN

PART XII — Earl OLIN'S Family Perpetuating the OLIN Surname

Reference Sources: Chapters 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47

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Notes:

SUMMARY

"You can't make a place for yourself under the sun
If you keep sitting in the shade of the family tree."
—Karen Ann Bland

Recognizing the OLIN Family: Past, Present, and Future

I am proud to be known as the present day OLIN Family Historian if only at a non-academic level. As such, it allows me a license to view our OLIN Family from a proper level of society, the majority. Our OLIN Family ancestors were good solid citizens of the low and middle income groups (by late 20th century standards). Yet, like all families, exceptions reached the top of the financial and social world, such as: governors, senators. doctors, corporate owners and some remained at the bottom of the barrel.

Knowing who our ancestors really were often reveals a history incompatible to the revered pedigrees researched by professionals and egotistic individuals. Such authors of biographies of hopefully recognized families of the country often embellish their account beyond correct boundaries, trying to satisfy the individual and/or to demonstrate family worthiness. Reference books, such as *Who's Who*, encyclopedias, or short biographies are limited to a specific individual and that individual's particular contribution and success in a trade, church, civil office, or sport with absolutely no mention of the hundreds of families involved in supporting such successes.

Public libraries, historical and genealogical societies, and private citizens have collected thousands of family history books and family genealogical charts which include the so-called "padded genealogies" or biographies of the most prominent individuals within a family. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, paid authors of local town, county, and state history books provided glowing accounts of esteemed individuals who contributed to society, and, for an additional fee, included an engraving that usually exaggerated the architecture of their home and

landscaped grounds.

A typical history book of a given area in America will have a title similar to *The Story of the Early Settlers of Greenwich, Rhode Island, Including Genealogies of Principal Families.* How were the principal families decided? In other cases, how were the memorable persons, distinguished people, or noted personages determined? Was there a survey or a vote taken of the people in a given community? I doubt it. In fact, very little mention, if any, was made of the community folks, the ones who made it possible for a few to become noteworthy. The OLIN Family is only one of thousands which has contributed 100% of their lives in supporting the successes of individuals, of a community, of a city, of a state or province in America. The majority of a family has simply been overlooked. This history of Joseph Olin and his descendants gives equal attention to all members of the OLIN Family. Each contributed his or her own little portion to America's success every day of his/her life.

Most documented family histories have very little to say about the females in a family. Our earlier Olin authors, George S. Nye, who wrote about the Ezra branch of John(2) Olin in 1892, and C. C. Olin, who authored the book on the Henry(2) Olin, 1893, were exceptions. Both authors devoted many pages to the female lines in the OLIN Family. I have attempted to do the same within necessary limits.

Our original John Olin was a carpenter and farmer. His three sons and son-in-law were carpenters and farmers. With the exception of some merchants and sea-faring men, most males had sufficient land to support their family with food, fuel, and material for clothes from their farm. It was a way of life. They were called farmers, but only a few profited beyond the support of their large families. In order to ensure family support and to supplement their income, the males took up a trade. In those early years, trades were limited to the needs and growth of a community. There were carpenters, rope winders, stone masons, surveyors, blacksmiths, boot cobblers, ministers, Justices of Peace, shipbuilders, etc. It seems that most of the early Olins were carpenters as well as farmers. They were capable of fashioning their own dwelling and out-buildings and necessary furniture as well as assisting other community carpenters in the building of churches, courthouses, jails, stores and bridges. Many of the following Olin generations became farmers and carpenters as well.

But, as the population increased along the eastern shores of America, land became a premium and overcrowded. The age-old custom for a father to divide his acreage into portions for his sons and for the sons to follow the same tradition became meaningless for supporting a family. Thus began the inland migration, across America ending at the Pacific Ocean. Most of the Olin migration occurred in the third generation through the eighth generation, usually only when new frontiers opened up. The more affluent family members were prone to remain in place while the desperate and adventurous moved westward hoping to improve their lives. Not all Olins were successfully relocated. Some found conditions too difficult and lonely and returned to the East. Today, there are Olin descendants in every state of the United States and provinces of Canada.

Migration transportation modes improved over the generations, starting with ox or horse conveyance, to barges or ships on waterways, to the steam and diesel railroads, to highway automotive vehicles, and to aircrafts flying the skies.

Other changes took place during the last 300 years. The Olins experienced communication changes, starting with the Town Crier and his "Hear ye! Hear ye!" to newspapers, telegraph, telephone, radio, movies, television, and major changes in computers. Education and educational opportunities for the Olins were very limited during the first 200 years. However, by the middle of the third 100 years, hardly an Olin started out in life without a high school education. After World War II, when America emerged as the world leader, the doors were literally thrown open to anyone who wanted advanced education. Some Olin veterans took advantage of the GI Bill that paid for college or trade training while others applied their service skills effectively in the job market. The net result is a universal awareness of the need for college and even advanced degrees in order to compete and survive in this technological and scientific world. Hundreds of Olins have received their diplomas and hundreds more are enrolled. All of the old occupations or professions are still necessary, but new special skills are needed every year, such as: securities, public health, science, programmers, educators, and negotiators.

Public service began in the OLIN Family with John(1) when he offered his help in relocating the Trinity Church from Newport Island, RI to the Mainland. His son John became a Justice of Peace. His

grandson became Governor of Vermont. All Olin branches have had members active in community government, the grass roots of the country. They have served as members of school boards, town, village, country, and state boards and committees, members of church boards and committees, and other civic organizations. Volunteerism by the Olins appears to have increased as population increased over the centuries. They almost always served the youth, the elderly, and groups: libraries, fire departments and community social events.

The OLIN Family is typical in perpetuating family traditions as described in this book. Some traditions will always be believed, regardless of proof otherwise. The tradition that Olin is a Welsh name is honorable and perhaps right; however, all indications point to England and beyond to France. Someday, it will be proven for sure. Meanwhile, what difference does it make whether the Olins are Welsh, English, Swedish, or French? Regardless, the Olins have contributed their lives and expertise to the growth of America.

Some Olin kinfolk have had formal reunions annually since 1880s, others since 1935, and while others are fairly recent. But the informal, small, kinfolk groups of grandparents, children and grandchildren has always been a source of family pride, love, and togetherness on special occasions such as birthdays, marriages, funerals, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The pride and love of the OLIN Family is shared with others in the community, thereby adding to a peaceful coexistence.

The 4th of July is special to the OLIN Family. Some of the early Olins fought in the French and Indian Wars in the 1750s, but it was the Revolutionary War for Independence of the American Colonies and its 4th of July observance that brings the U. S. Olins and their neighbors together. Since that war, the Olins, like most other loyal Americans, have made sacrifices in defense of their country. Not only did they join in the fighting, they cultivated food, worked in factories, took home guard actions, and went without during later wars, such as: War of 1812, Mexican War in 1845, the War Between the States in the 1860s; the Spanish American War in the 1890s and World Wars I and II, all in direct defense of our county. Like other families, the Olins were very reluctant to participate in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Bosnia and several other smaller conflicts that appeared to be no direct threat to our country. But out of respect for our country, the Olins did share in all engagements.

The eighth and ninth generations of Olins experienced the fear and degradation resulting from the Great Depression. Parents were bitter toward the government that was responsible and again toward the new government that tried to take corrective actions. During the 10-12-year period, poverty became an accepted way of life.

Yet through it all, parents held their heads high and remained calm in protecting their children, and hung onto their moral and religious beliefs. Their children were their salvation and should have an education to enable them to earn a higher standard of living. The parents of the ninth generation made sacrifices to ensure all their children gained high school diplomas. The GI Bill of Rights that included educational opportunities, relaxed college loan requirements, special service skills, and new technologies provided the ninth generation of Olins with the path to a higher standard of living.

The tenth generation of Olins were able to take advantage of their parents' financial gains, easy education loans, a demanding job market and their own desire to earn bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees. One condition of competiveness for a desired position was willingness to relocate, and leave an established home to go where the jobs were located. This leads to another round of migration, but unlike the east to west movement, migration is to all points of the compass and often frequently. This undisciplined migration breaks a kinfolk family apart when it fragments across the country. Yet, each separate Olin member still has his/her sense of value and pride, love for their parents, children, and their country.

The Olin future, of course, is unknown; however, the Olins will continue to blend with the majority of the population, seemingly unnoticed, yet contributing to the success of America. When space travel becomes a way of life, the Olins will share in the migration to space colonies where again they will become a part of the majority in the making of new civilizations. The new age of computer networking and communications already are encouraging the Olins toward distant and broader horizons.

We do not laugh at our ancestors; we laugh and cry with them. We truly hope our descendants laugh with us, not at us.

Relationship Chart

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
COMMON ANCESTOR	SON-DAU.	GRAND-SON	GREAT GRAND-SON	G-G GRAND-SON	G-G-G GRAND-SON	4G GRAND-SON	5G GRAND-SON	6G GRAND-SON	7G GRAND-SON
1	SON-DAU.	BRO-SIS.	NEPHEW NIECE	GRAND NEPHEW	GREAT GRAND-NEPHEW	G-G GRAND-NEPHEW	G-G-G GRAND-NEPHEW	4G GRAND-NEPHEW	5G GRAND-NEPHEW	6G GRAND-NEPHEW
2	GRAND-SON	NEPHEW-NIECE	1ST COUSIN	1 COU 1 R	1COU 2 R	1 COU 3 R	1 COU 4 R	1 COU 5 R	1 COU 6 R	1 COU 7 R
3	GREAT GRAND-SON	GRAND NEPHEW	1 COU 1 R	2ND COUSIN	2 COU 1 R	2 COU 2 R	2 COU 3 R	2 COU 4 R	2 COU 5 R	2 COU 6 R
4	G-G GRAND-SON	GREAT GRAND-NEPHEW	1 COU 2 R	2 COU 1 R	3RD COUSIN	3 COU 1 R	3 COU 2 R	3 COU 3 R	3 COU 4 R	3 COU 5 R
5	G-G-G GRAND-SON	G-G GRAND-NEPHEW	1 COU 3 R	2 COU 2 R	3 COU 1 R	4TH COUSIN	4 COU 1 R	4 COU 2 R	4 COU 3 R	4 COU 4 R
6	4G GRAND-SON	3G GRAND-NEPHEW	1 COU 4 R	2 COU 3 R	3 COU 2 R	4 COU 1 R	5TH COUSIN	5 COU 1 R	5 COU 2 R	5 COU 3 R
7	5G GRAND-SON	4G GRAND-NEPHEW	1 COU 5 R	2 COU 4 R	3 COU 3 R	4 COU 2 R	5 COU 1 R	6TH COUSIN	6 COU 1 R	6 COU 2 R
8	6G GRAND-SON	5G GRAND-NEPHEW	1 COU 6 R	2 COU 5 R	3 COU 4 R	4 COU 3 R	5 COU 2 R	6 COU 1 R	7TH COUSIN	7 COU 1 R
9	7G GRAND-SON	6G GRAND-NEPHEW	1 COU 7 R	2 COU 6 R	3 COU 5 R	4 COU 4 R	5 COU 3 R	6 COU 2 R	7 COU 1 R	8TH COUSIN

— Abbreviations —

BBR= brother
SIS = sister
DAG = daughter
COU = cousin

G-G = great-great
GRANDSON = grandson or granddaughter
SON = son or daughter
NEPHEW = nephew or niece

R = removed (generations removed)

This chart may be extended in either direction for identifying more distant relationships.

Index

This index lists all the text surnames with given names and a birth year for a few confusing same names. It does not include names on family charts, maps, source information, appendices or Editor and Author's introduction.

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